

THE CHART

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Friday, January 29, 1999

Ten Southern students traveled to the Central American country of Belize to study at the country's hospitals. ... A Closer Look, Page 10



BASEBALL

From crosstown to campus?

Administration contemplates new baseball home

By JEFF WELLS
MANAGING EDITOR

Baseball may find a home on the Missouri Southern campus. College President Julio Leon confirmed Wednesday that the administration is examining building a new stadium on campus.

"We are in the preliminary stages of conversation regarding the possible construction of a baseball stadium on campus," Leon said.

The Southern baseball team currently plays its home games at Joe Becker Stadium, Third and

High, which is owned by the city of Joplin.

State guidelines mandate that athletic facilities be financed by the institutions. Southern may look to friends of the College and local corporations for funding. For the construction of the Leggett & Platt Athletic Center, Southern received donations from Leggett & Platt, Freeman Health System, and St. John's Regional Medical Center.

Other topics being discussed include location, size, and accessibility.

"There is a lot of history [at Joe Becker], a lot of games were played [there], Mantle and all,

but there comes a time when there needs to be change," said head coach Warren Turner. "We need a field on campus so people can come and see the games."

Turner's wish list for a new stadium would include the same quality of playing surface as Joe Becker, good sprinklers, safer lights, better dugouts, locker rooms, a press box, and seating for around 800 fans.

Turner said at Joe Becker the dugouts are too close to home plate.

TURN TO STADIUM, PAGE 5

COLLEGE EXPANSION

College receives allocation

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

After a long wait, Missouri Southern finally will be able to avail itself of capital improvements funding awarded the College nearly a year ago.

The \$6,291,696 is already earmarked for expansion and development of Spiva Library and renovation of Unimel Technology.

"The money actually had been recommended in the last General Assembly," College president Julio Leon said. "In other words, we were supposed to receive it July 1 of last year, but there was a legal challenge by the state auditor, Margaret Kelly."

"She claimed that the monies being used came from admission to gambling casinos and was subject to the Hancock Amendment, and incidentally should be refunded."

After the appellate courts ruled against her, Kelly took the case to the Missouri Supreme Court, which refused to hear the case, according to Leon.

"On the basis of that, the governor released the money," he said.

Rep. Gary Burton (R-Joplin) said the library project funding has been a long time coming.

"We've been trying to get the library done for the last three years, and so now that the lawsuit's settled and they've released those funds, we can complete the project," he said.

The \$5.8 million allocated for Spiva Library will have a threefold impact: additional space, renova-

TURN TO LIBRARY, PAGE 5

LIFE'S LITTLE KICKS



Eli Swalm, 4, blocks an opponents kick at the Midwest Karate Tournament Saturday at Robert Ellis Young Gymnasium.

HOOPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

JOPLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Two Southern runners arrested after violation of city ordinance, assault

By ANDRE L. SMITH
SPORTS/DESIGN EDITOR

Saturday morning, Jake Wells and Brian Hill were taken into custody by Joplin police officers for assault and resisting arrest on the Seventh Street bridge across from the Botany Shop.

It started out as a routine post-meet run. The Seventh

Street route is familiar to distance runners on Tom Rutledge's track team, but approximately 10 minutes into their workout, Wells and Hill were handcuffed and taken to jail.

As long as Wells has been a part of Missouri Southern's track and field program, taking his 15-mile journey 18 inches from the curb has never been a problem. In fact, Rutledge said he encouraged it.

"I sort of feel bad because he was doing what I told him to do," he said. "I feel like I should have been the one arrested. I have always said to run in the street to make things safe for pedestrians."

In previous years, Rutledge has received complaint calls from store owners who were concerned with the safety of pedestrians who travel on the sidewalk.

As Wells, Hill, and Jim Lowary fell behind a larger

group headed east on Seventh Street, Joplin police officer Jimmy Wallace warned Wells of a city ordinance stating that if a sidewalk is available, it must be used.

Wells, instead of stopping and complying with the officer's request, continued his pace run. The officer pulled up a block and called for back-up to assist in the

TURN TO ARRESTS, PAGE 5

PUBLIC INFORMATION

... it is time to kick back a little.



JEFF BILLINGTON/The Chart

Gwen Hunt relaxes on a John Deere at the 1998 Homecoming picnic.

Southern publicist to retire after 23 years

By ERIN SELLERS
CAMPUS EDITOR

A great loss will soon occur in the public information office of Missouri Southern. This May, after 23 years of handling the College's publicity, Gwen Hunt, director of public information, is retiring.

"It's a very hectic schedule," Hunt said. "I feel that it is time to kick back a little."

Forget boredom. Hunt has amassed a multitude of things to occupy her time upon leaving Southern.

"I have delusions of grandeur of what I am going to do in my yard,"

she said. "I also want to take Spanish and start to play the piano again."

Hunt's husband, Duane, associate professor of theatre, has no immediate plans of retirement, but when he does, the Hunts plan to travel.

"Our first journey is going to be to Yellowstone," Gwen Hunt said. "We've never been to the north-west. We're looking forward to traveling in the fall."

Until her husband retires, Hunt is looking forward to "just running around on my own for a year or so."

Hunt started teaching at Southern in 1966. She taught English and speech until she became the public information "office" in July 1976.

"I had some public relations experience," Hunt said. "The opportunity was offered, and I took it. At the time, it was a one-woman job."

Hunt worked alone as Southern's public information officer for six

TURN TO HUNT, PAGE 5

Newman Club members journey to see the pope

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Student LifeBeat



These special feature stories are designed specifically for you—the student. If you have story suggestions, please call 625-9311.

He is perhaps the most well-known individual worldwide, and in what may turn out to be his final trip to the United States, more than a million people came out to see Pope John Paul II. Five members of Missouri Southern's Newman Club were in that number.

Dr. Jim Jackson, professor of biology, and his wife, Brenda, part-time instructor of theatre, attended Tuesday's youth rally and Wednesday's Mass in St. Louis along with three students.

"Probably the most enjoyable part of it was the

TURN TO POPE, PAGE 5



1998 Year In Review:

Dr. Pat Lipira's softball Lady Lions brought home another MIAA championship, which is one of the highlights of the 1998 year in sports...page 12

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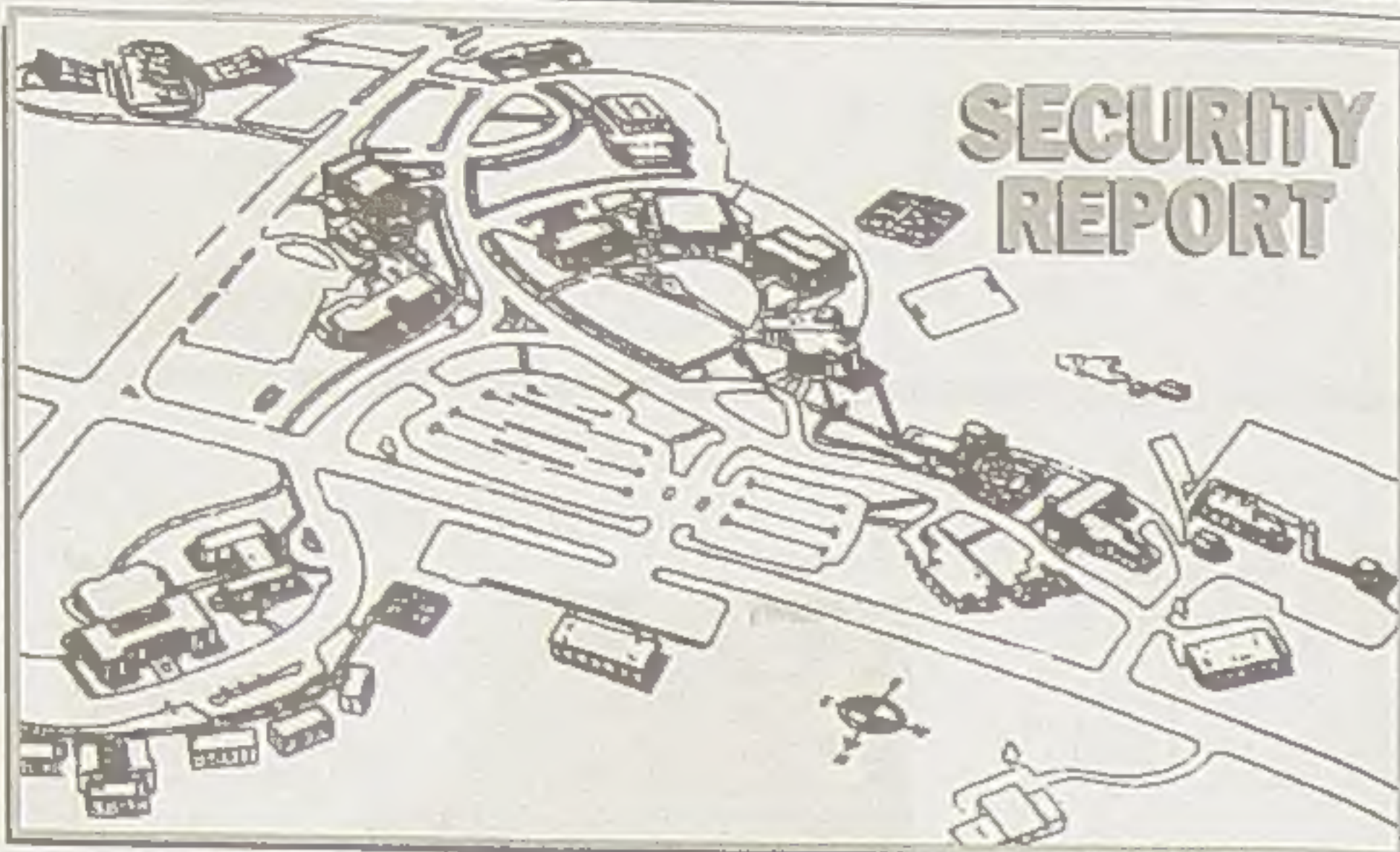
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SECURITY
REPORT

1/18/99 - 1/26/99

No on campus incidents reported to campus security. Security was contacted at 5:30 p.m. January 25, 1999, by Orvie Freer. Freer was refueling a Missouri Southern bus at a Phillips 66 in Harrisonville, MO when another vehicle pulled in behind him and struck the bus. No damage was reported to either vehicle.

All proceeds of all advertising go to The Chart, the student newspaper of Missouri Southern State College.

ASSESSMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH

Seniors get ready for exam

By ELIZABETH SCHURMAN
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Seniors, get ready. Senior Assessment Day is coming soon. Senior Assessment Day is Wednesday, Feb. 24. The assessment is a mandatory test students take before graduation. Students who will be graduating in May, July, or December 1999 should take the test on Feb. 24.

Missouri Southern sets aside one day for the exam out of respect for the students and their schedules.

"No other college that I know of sets aside a day for their students to take the assessment," said Dr. Delores Honey, director of the center for assessment and institutional research. "Many other departments are giving their assessment that day also."

Students don't just show up to take the test. College President Julio Leon will be speaking before the test, and the students are provided with a meal.

The College is changing the test this year to an academic profile test.

"The academic profile test is a more simple, less stressful, and a less time-consuming test for the students to take," Honey said.

Senior Chris Owens doesn't seem too apprehensive about the upcoming test.

"I'm not really nervous or anything," he said. "I think

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We use the results to see where in the college we need improvement.

Dr. Delores Honey
Institutional Research

99

it's mainly for the College to see how enlightened we've become since we've been here."

Students who take the freshman assessment have their scores compared with their senior assessment test. Transfer students also need to take the senior assessment even if they did not take the freshman assessment.

"We use the results to see where in the College we need improvement," Honey said. "It is also a good way for students to see where they have improved individually."

Letters informing students about the assessment should be received either the first or second week of February. Persons with questions or not receiving a letter may contact Honey in Matthews Hall, Room 321.

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Catholic Campus Ministries

Mass Schedule Spring 1999

Day	Time	Room
Tuesday, Feb. 2	8:50 a.m.	BSC 311
Tuesday, Feb. 9	8:50 a.m.	BSC 311
Tuesday, Feb. 16	8:50 a.m.	BSC 311
Tuesday, Feb. 23	8:50 a.m.	BSC 311
Tuesday, Mar. 2	8:50 a.m.	BSC 311
Tuesday, Mar. 9	8:50 a.m.	BSC 311
Tuesday, Mar. 16	8:50 a.m.	BSC 311
Tuesday, Mar. 30	8:50 a.m.	BSC 311
Tuesday, April 13	8:50 a.m.	BSC 311
Tuesday, April 20	8:50 a.m.	BSC 311
Tuesday, April 27	8:50 a.m.	BSC 311
Tuesday, May 4	8:50 a.m.	BSC 311
Tuesday, May 11	8:50 a.m.	BSC 311

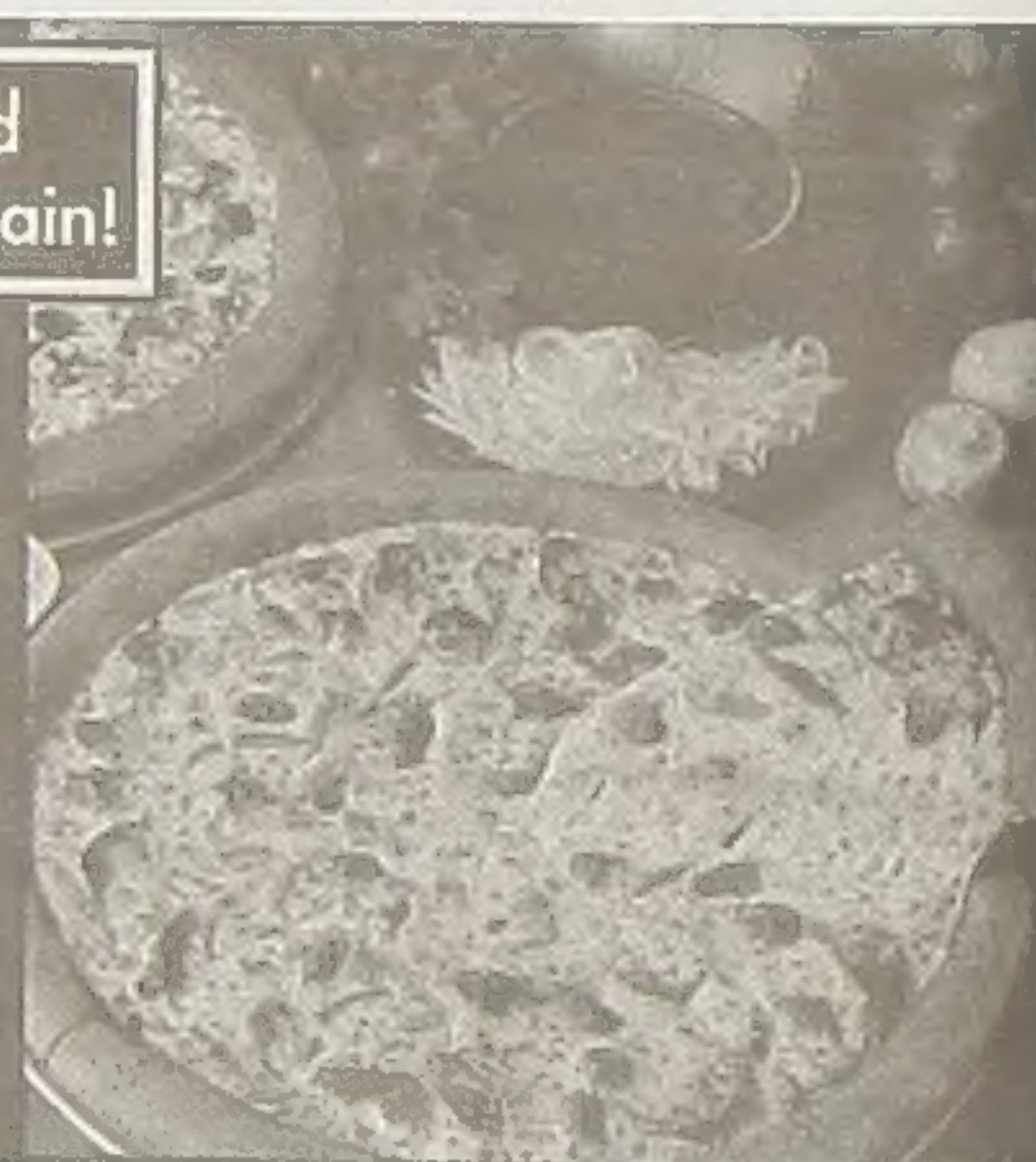
Dedications

February 2	Memorial Mass
February 16	Holy Eucharist
March 9	Frances of Rome
April 13	Pope Martin I

Each Mass will last about 30 minutes

Papa John's Named
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'Voice of the Lions' departing for Louisiana

By ANDRE L. SMITH
SPORTS AND DESIGN EDITOR

As of today, Ron Fauss has resigned his position as Missouri Southern's director of athletic marketing and "Voice of the Lions" to serve as Northwestern (La.) State University's assistant athletic director in charge of marketing.

At Northwestern State, Fauss will oversee the athletic department's promotions and marketing strategies. He said he learned of the job through Dennis Kilina, the assistant athletic director in charge of marketing at Bradley University.

"He was previously at Northwestern State, and through contacts with him at marketing conventions the last two summers, he called and let me know about the job," Fauss said. "The more people that talked about it around the country, the better the job looked. Once I

went down there and saw their attitude and how they were set up, I knew it was a job I could not pass up."

The Demons, located in Natchitoches, La., compete at the NCAA Division I level in every sport except football. Fauss said although he will have fun with marketing, he will miss doing radio broadcasts.

"It was very hard knowing that it was going to probably be my last broadcast for Southern," Fauss said of Monday night's basketball game at Central Missouri State.

Fauss, 28, who has a communications degree from Southern, started broadcasting in 1992 when he helped Don Gross with softball

games. He began to serve as the full-time voice of the Lions in 1995 upon the retirement of Gross.

His stint as athletic marketing director began in 1994.

Jim Frazier, Southern's men's athletic director, said Fauss originated the position.

"He started the position himself and we just basically gave him support with whatever he needed," Frazier said. "His blood runs green and gold. That part is going to be difficult to replace. We're going to miss him."

Fauss' former classmate and long-time friend, Bruce Vonder Haar, said Northwestern State will get a great marketer and good worker.

"He does a great job on the radio, and everyone who listens to him knows that, it goes without saying," Vonder Haar said. "What people don't realize is that his marketing job will be greatly missed and hard to replace."

Fauss expressed his gratitude to Frazier and

Dennis Slusher, Southern's former sports information director.

"Missouri Southern will always be special, and I'll always be a Lions' fan no matter where I'm at," Fauss said. "I'm incredibly thankful to Frazier and Slusher for giving me my start here. Frazier is the key to it all."

Fauss added that he learned the importance of experience as a student.

"I've always tried to make a special effort of getting students involved," he said. "It reminds me of a certain Whitney Houston song," he added jokingly.

Frazier, who said the department will begin looking for a replacement in about a week, said different options have been studied.

"We're looking for combinations," Frazier said. "We've looked at ways to change the position, but we haven't come up with anything better."

Gross will finish the season's broadcasts. □



Ron Fauss
Athletic Marketing

STUDENT SENATE

Legislative influenza hits epidemic stage

By ERIN SELLERS
CAMPUS EDITOR

Senators are dropping like flies, as the saying goes. As of Wednesday's Student Senate meeting, there are seven positions available — two senior, two sophomore, and three freshmen seats. Interested students should go by the Senate office on the second floor of the Billingsly Student Center.

Among the senators not returning for the spring semester are Amy Graves, vice president, and Heather Vannaman, secretary. "That's two of my officers already," Senate President Jesse DeGonia said.

"I have too many other responsibilities," Vannaman said. "I feel that I could make more of an impact doing something else."

The Senate filled Vannaman's position at the Jan. 20 meeting. By a unanimous voice vote, the Senate appointed Nicole Hollenberg. The new vice president, replacing Graves, is junior Tom Williams. DeGonia said his reason for nominating Williams is the possibility of Williams running for president next fall.

"I think this would be a good trial run," DeGonia said.

Despite all the Senate vacancies, the attendance for the second meeting was up from last week. Only three senators were not in attendance this week as opposed to the seven absent from the Jan. 20 meeting. The senators absent from this week's meeting were Kenny Brown, Rob Huffman, and Vanessa Copeland.

DeGonia announced the new treasury balance of \$11,050 (\$9,450 allotted for this semester plus the \$1,600 left over from last semester).

The Senate's annual trip to Jefferson City was discussed. This year the trip conflicts with Senior Assessment Day on Feb. 24.

"[Senior senators] will be responsible for taking the test," parliamentary Sandy Fisk said. "I don't think there's a penalty — just take it."

The upcoming Casino Night fund-raiser will be chaired by Williams, the newly elected vice president.

The Missouri Southern Foundation Phonathon, which begins Sunday, still needs Senate volunteers. Fisk said the free T-shirt might encourage more senators to sign up.

As of the Wednesday meeting, only one organization, Alpha Epsilon Rho, has requested an allotment of funds.

"We've only had one, and that really surprises me," DeGonia said. "We've usually had more by this time, and once the money is gone, it's gone." □

STAFF RETIREMENT

Veteran campus operator Richardson vacates position

By MATT MADURA
STAFF WRITER

From plug boards to direct dialing, SuAn Richardson, Missouri Southern operator, has heard and seen it all.

Stability has been a long-standing factor in Richardson's life, which started when she was born in her grandparents' house, the same house she currently resides in. She began her career at Southern on Aug. 9, 1972.

"I remember when this campus was a farm and the cattle would roam the hills," Richardson said.

Today, she is partially retiring from her full-time position and switching to a part-time job at night and during the spring and summer sessions.

"I'll be working part-time for about a year, then go into full retirement," Richardson said.

For the past year and a half, Richardson has also been employed at Edge Lewis Funeral Home and Mason-Woodard Mortuary.

During her tenure at Southern, Richardson has witnessed many changes. She has seen numerous buildings constructed on campus, including Webster Hall, Taylor Auditorium, and Hughes Stadium.

"It is a beautiful campus, and I like it when visitors come," Richardson said. "I am always proud of that."

Richardson hasn't always been an employee of Southern. She was a relief operator for an insurance company in Kansas City for three years and was also employed as an operator at Joplin Printing Company.

Before there was direct dialing out of campus, all calls went through Richardson. It was Richardson who dialed long-distance calls for faculty.

"When I got the bill, I divided the calls up among the departments and billed them individually," she said.

Southern now has more than 1,100 extensions with the fiber optics and fax machines included. Richardson said she has learned about 75 percent of them.

"I try not to learn the names of the students as much, but I remember the faculty," she said.

Looking back over her career, one funny call always comes to mind. An older man called, mistaking Southern with Sears.

"The gentleman wanted to know when his tractor was going to be ready," she explained. "He kept getting more upset when I told him this was the Missouri Southern College operator."

Many of the people Richardson has come into contact with over 26 years at Southern will remember her fondly when she drops her part-time.

"We'll miss her, but we'll still see her in the evening," said Connie Shelton, records clerk. "She is very nice to work with."

Richardson was not only an operator, but a Missouri Southern sports fan as well.

"I've been to every home game for 26 years except one," Richardson said. She also sells tickets at the basketball games.

"I will miss the people," she said. "They are like an extended family to me."

After retirement she plans to visit nursing homes and people she hasn't seen in a long time.

"In the short time I've known her, I've had a lot of fun with her," said Rita Boyer, records clerk. "She's a sweet lady and will be missed." □

CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS



MATT MADURA/The Chart

Justin Faucett, construction worker, cuts away at the new addition in the Student Life Center. According to Dr. John Tiede, senior vice president, the cafeteria addition will open in mid-May.

Icy conditions slow construction

By JEFF BILLINGTON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Even with ice, rain, and wind slowing down the progress of campus construction, the newest structural members of the Missouri Southern family are nearing closer to the finish line.

"It's slowed down a little, obviously with some of the icy weather, on the field house," said Dr. John Tiede, senior vice president. "Our big thing we want to accomplish is getting the roof on it."

Tiede said with the roof on, construction in the interior will be a priority.

"They've been focusing most of their work down in the basement area until they can get the roof completed," he said. "The basement area's coming along pretty well; they hope to start painting that maybe in a couple weeks."

He said finishing the roof of the field house has been held back primarily because of the weather.

"The complication they had which is bad around here is, it's hard to roof in high winds," Tiede said. "It seems like

every pretty day we get it's windy as well. They go ahead and work, but it slows us down."

He said the completion date for the building changes from month to month depending on the weather and basic construction problems.

"The last dates they gave me, they were hoping to have the basement part done about April 15," Tiede said. "And they are projecting about June 15 on the upper portion."

He said the original hopes of having the Leggett & Platt Athletic Center finished in time for the May commencement were dashed when December weather took its toll on construction.

Tiede said the cafeteria portion of the Student Life Center is also moving along well.

"They do have that completely enclosed," he said. "They have even put some interior walls up there and it's really in pretty good shape."

Tiede said the last estimated finish date on it is May 15.

"They're running a little behind from our original estimate on both of them," he said. "I think the original estimate was the cafeteria might be done around spring break." □

SOUTHERN NEWS BRIEFS

Foundation Phonathon kicks off Super Sunday

The 17th annual Missouri Southern Foundation Phonathon begins Sunday, with a goal of \$290,000.

The Phonathon theme, "Phoning for the Future," reflects the College's continuing commitment to provide students with an education that will prepare them for the challenges of the 21st century.

More than 250 volunteers will staff a bank of telephones in the Foundation House through Feb. 11 in efforts to contact more than 14,000 alumni, former students, parents of students, and friends of the College.

Chairpersons for the 1999 Phonathon are Nancy Mills, Monett, and Glenn Wilson Joplin, both members of the Foundation's board of directors.

Last year, the Phonathon raised \$287,222. □

Arts council awards grant to theatre department

The Missouri Arts Council has awarded a \$1,500 grant to the Missouri Southern theatre department to obtain technical assistance for the department's current play, *Tartuffe: Born Again*.

As a result of the grant, Dr. David Weiss, professor emeritus at the University of Virginia, is serving as a guest artist-in-residence for 111 days to work with students and faculty designing the sets and lighting for the production.

Weiss will also conduct workshops with students in scene painting and give eight guest lectures.

Weiss, a nationally known designer, recently returned from Spain where he was conducting research for his design work.

"Students often design sets and lighting for shows, and this provides them with valuable experiences," said Dr. Jay Fields, head of Southern's theatre department. "However, sometimes specific shows require design skills that are beyond the range of students' current abilities." □

Rho Sigma raises \$70 by paying one-hour's tuition

Rho Sigma, the Missouri Southern chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, recently raised \$70 through a "Kiss a Semester Hour Goodbye" fund-raiser.

Students who donated \$1 were given the opportunity to receive the price of one-hour credit on the spring 1999 tuition from the chapter.

The winner was Francis Nguyen, a senior mathematics education major.

Carrie LaMere, Jenni Adams, Teresa Crow, Carl Bhend, April Marciel, Heidy Hathcock, Sara Pennington, Kelly Robb, Kelly Avise, and Lisa Schell helped with the fund-raiser.

Rho Sigma also adopted Duquesne Elementary School during the fall semester.

Adams, college service officer, was chairperson and organized events for the school. A luncheon for faculty and staff was among the highlights. □

February 15, a typical Discovery Day at Southern

High school students and their parents can experience a typical day at Missouri Southern during a special "Discovery Day" on Monday, Feb. 15.

Hosted by the admissions office, the day will include campus tours, visits with faculty, and presentations about financial aid, housing, academics, and College services.

"We want the students to experience the true Missouri Southern hospitality," said Derek Skaggs, director of enrollment services. "Selecting the perfect college is an exciting process of discovery."

A second "Discovery Day" is scheduled for Friday, April 2. □



MATT MADURA/The Chart

SuAn Richardson, college operator since 1972, will begin a new chapter of her life today. She is partially retiring from her position.

OUR EDITORIAL

Unsigned editorials on this page express the opinions of a majority of The Chart editors. Observations elsewhere on the page represent independent viewpoints of columnists, cartoonists, and readers.

Library worthy of a university

Under the Missouri constitution the state budget must be balanced and in effect by July 1.

If that schedule had occurred this year, construction would have already begun on the expansion of Spiva Library into a facility worthy of a university.

After clearing the legislative process and obtaining the approval of Gov. Mel Carnahan, the cash seemed to be within Southern's grasp. But State Auditor Margaret Kelly had a judicial obstacle. She said the funds for the library, the Ummel Technology renovation, and all the capital improvements at all of Missouri's colleges and universities were tainted money. She went to court to prove that the Hancock Amendment applied to the revenues brought in by casino admissions.

Gov. Carnahan was forced to stop the prize patrol from delivering our big check. The case went to court, and Kelly lost.

Now we celebrate.

Southern will now begin our move into 90s technology. The warm green glow of LION terminals will fade to black. The light will be replaced by bright new monitors that will be connected to the world.

Students will wander into the new halls of the modern expansion any time day or night to attend distance learning classes on the World Wide Web. Some of these courses will originate here in Joplin, others will be from Mexico, France, Scandinavia, and elsewhere around the globe.

More space will be provided for students to meet classmates face to face without disturbing others.

And students will not need a map and a Dewey decimal guide to find the way from UU to UZ.

College President Julio Leon is obviously elated, head librarian Charles Kemp is excited, and the students are abuzz with the news.

It's about time.

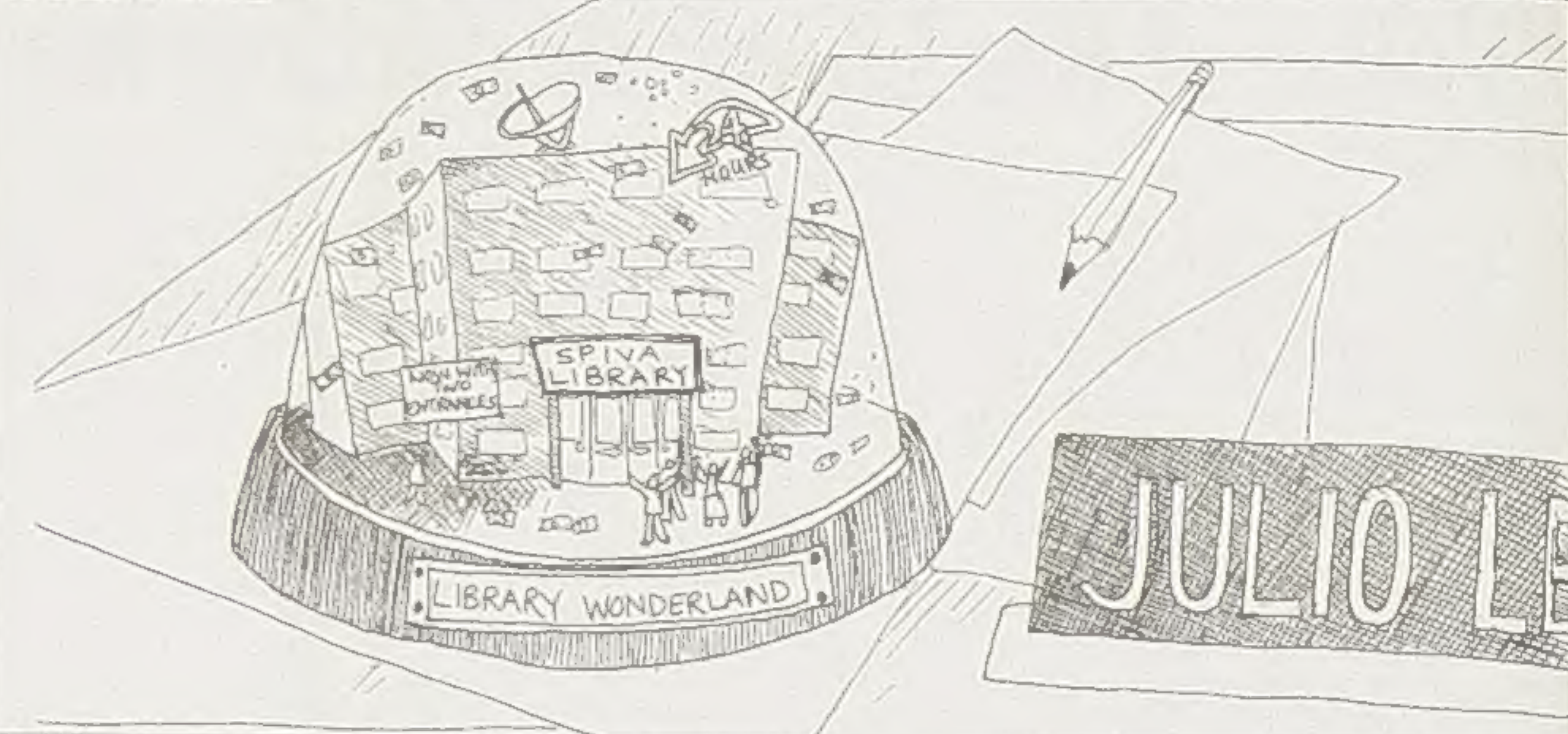
There is a drawback, it is that the new, improved, expanded library will not open until Fall 2000 at the soonest.

Now how about opening the back door?

On the other side of the campus, the dental hygienists and their friends in Ummel Technology will be able to breathe. More space will be available for their programs when the long-abandoned auto mechanics garage is renovated.

While we rejoice at our newfound wealth, let us hope that next year we will get our funding in a timely fashion. □

ANDREA'S ANGLE



EDITOR'S COLUMN

Life's transitions inspire change of scenery

Sixteen years ago, when I embarked on my first day of school, I was anything but ready for the transition from my comfortable preschool life (with Big Bird and mom to the rescue) to the elementary school where I faced strange teachers, grades, and most of all — big kids.

Other times in my life have been transitional and a little frightening to deal with, but until the beginning of this semester I had never been so revisited by the memories of the kindergarten trying to be brave in a changing world. This probably stems from the fact I am stepping away from my comfortable role of the College life I enjoy so much in just about every way.

This is my third year at Missouri Southern, and since day one, I have been working for *The Chart*



Ginny Dumond
Editor-in-Chief

under the tutelage of many talented editors and friends. I have gone from the paste-up room to 57-hour days and have ended up in the editors' office where I sit on the not-so-coveted turquoise vinyl chair.

So, this semester I'm the scary teacher and my two trusty side-kicks, Jeff and Jeff, are the big kids. I hope a few years from now, the people just joining the paper will be referring to us as editors and friends.

Literally driving my way into *The Chart* history books, I am also serving as the State Capitol intern for the paper this semester. Spending two days a week in Jefferson City and then rushing back to see how things are going in the office is proving to be a challenge, but a fun one. This staff is more than capable, which makes the weekly return to Joplin more of a relief than a chore.

The difference between apprehension about life at 4 and at 18, when I came to college, is only a matter of scenery. School had become familiar territory, the teachers and big kids became friends, and now it's the prospect of leaving that part of my

life behind to be an ADULT that makes me uneasy.

Words like "The Workplace" and "Responsibility" have been catching my attention more and more as my place in the world has been shifting out from under me.

Other than my new role at Southern, I will also be undertaking the amazing responsibility and joy of becoming a wife late this summer. I'm sure this recent decision has much to do with my newfound feelings of adulthood, though it seems like the most natural move in the world.

I didn't think much about the adult-like implications of this decision until my mom started crying and saying that I was her "baby," and Brad's (that's the guy) mom started pointing out cute babies to me in the supermarket.

Now things like "Oh, I could get you a vacuum cleaner for your birthday!" are coming out of the mouths of my relatives, and I'm beginning to notice the wallpaper other people use in their kitchens. It looks like it's about time for another change of scenery. □

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Editor's Y2k bug theory amounts to dollar bet

In recent years, a new crisis has arisen in the world. It is the feared Y2K. This seemingly innocent glitch is causing a mass hysteria in a world that is supposed to be past primal behavior.

The forgotten bomb shelters of the 1960s are making a reappearance as people are preparing for the end of the world as brought on by Y2K. Stockpiles of food, guns, and generators are being hoarded by those who are thinking ahead, at least in their own minds.

Alas, this is complete stupidity. Come on, people, we live in a supposedly modern, intelligent society.

People who know me know I have a history of creating theories for certain situations. I have created one for Y2K, though it is not necessarily what I believe.



Jeff Billington
Executive Editor

In this theory, I see Y2K starting about four or five years ago. Bill Gates is sitting around with a group of other industry giants talking about practical jokes. And as situations like this often do, it progressed to betting, and Gates says, "Well, I bet I have the ability to pull a joke on mankind without them even realizing it's completely made up."

At this point the other moguls in the room took him up on the bet, thinking it was impossible. In fact, the bet is only for a dollar, since these guys do not really need money, plus it is ironic to think he caused all this trouble for just a dollar.

So there it was born. Gates just filtered it down through the masses using his well-placed executives and assistants to get the word out.

Then it hit the public, and everyone who had bought a computer before 1995 started thinking "What is going to happen to my computer?"

It did not stop there. It continued growing until people were thinking it would destroy all the government's computer systems, and then private sector areas, causing havoc on banks, credit

unions, public utilities, even traffic lights.

Everyone was just convinced at the stroke of midnight, Jan. 1, 2000, the world would end.

Recently this story has changed a little. Now it is being said the computers will be able to last until March or so before going nuts and crippling the world economy.

Now this seems convenient. As I see it, the world will hit 2000, go perfectly fine through March, then it will happen on April 1, 2000.

Bill Gates will hold a live television press conference. He will walk out and say, "April Fools," turn around, and walk off without another word.

This would make the biggest crisis of the end of the 20th century nothing but the biggest joke ever played on civilization.

Only a man who can control our lives as much as Bill Gates can pull it off.

So all of you Y2K soothsayers, take heed of Billington Theory 2,874 and give it a break. Even if things get kind of rough, we will still survive.

And for you, Bill, if you see this and I am right with my theory, I think you should split the buck you won with me. □

The Chart welcomes letters from readers. Letters must be signed and include a phone number for verification. Letters should be 300 words or fewer. Submit letters to The Chart office on the third floor of Webster Hall, fax them to (417) 625-9742, or send via e-mail. Our e-mail address: Chart@mail.mssc.edu. Letters are due by noon Monday for publication in that week's edition.

IN PERSPECTIVE

Combining classes with interests leads to enjoyable career choices

Beginning in kindergarten, we educators seem to have taken a misguided approach to career counseling. We, along with what seems to be the whole free world, have pounded youngsters with the question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Older adults have even swarmed my office, reeking with indecision, with the same question directed at themselves.

I have a little card in my office that I hand out to my advisees and members of my classes:



Ann Allman
Counselor

"When career searching, don't ask yourself what you want to be, as that limits your possibilities. Instead ask:

1. What do I want to do every day that would make my eyes light up?
2. What's keeping me from it, and how can I overcome it?
3. What do I want to learn?

Then the possibilities are endless."

The concept of "doing" adds a whole new dimension. It can reveal a person's wildest dreams. Or it can reveal that he or she is still living under the shadow of others' expectations. For example, a member of my career class claimed he was going into accounting because his father and his high school teachers thought he would make a good accountant. When I asked him what he would like to really be doing every day, he

said, "Flying an airplane!"

"Why aren't you doing it?" I asked.

"The instruction is too expensive," he replied.

"Do you want to learn anything else in addition to flying," I queried.

"I'd like to know how to work on them, too," he said.

When his eyes lit up like gleaming coals, I knew I had him. The merry chase started to gather information about financing, getting some core classes at Missouri Southern where it was less costly, and eventually transferring to another school.

Another student, intensely active and accomplished in both music and theatre, was torn between which to choose for a bachelor's degree.

Using the same technique on her, she finally realized she wanted musical theatre,

but didn't know how to get it here. We roughed out a bachelor of general studies program (which is really a goal-oriented, individualized, not general program), and sent her to two department chairmen to iron out the details.

A third student was a real challenge. He wanted to drink martinis in a chaise lounge by the ocean.

I think I really scared this fellow, but not because of the martinis.

"You don't really want to be here, do you?" I asked.

"No."

"Why are you here?"

"My grandmother is paying my way."

"What are you majoring in?"

"Business," he replied.

"You don't like it, do you? In fact, I'll bet you don't even like living here," I suggested.

He looked a little nervous. "No."

"Where are you from?" I asked, already suspecting the answer.

"Florida," he replied.

"What would you rather be doing in Florida — something related to the ocean, perhaps?" I asked.

Then his eyes lit up and he told me all about the fun he could have teaching people how to water ski — maybe even having a shop nearby.

Suddenly he saw a new dimension to his business degree, because I could give him some of the skills he needed to accomplish this.

I encouraged him to snoop around in the kinesiology department and elsewhere to see if he needed some courses.

Are you currently doing what you would like to be doing? □



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The Chart, the newspaper of Missouri Southern State College, is published weekly, except during holidays and examination periods, from August through May, by students in communications as a laboratory experience. Views expressed do not represent the opinions of the administration, faculty, or the student body.

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SOUTHERN FOUNDATION

Foundation names assistant

By ERIC GRUBER
ARTS EDITOR

Although it may be currently taboo for any notions of human cloning, the Missouri Southern Foundation has found the next best thing — Curtis Betebenner, assistant director.

A Southern graduate, Betebenner spent 21 years of his life in the Air Force. He retired as a lieutenant colonel, then taught ROTC in Arkansas, flew with two commuter airlines, and finally returned home to work at the College.

"I finally achieved my long-term objective of returning home," he said. "It just took me 20 some years to get it."

Betebenner said he enjoys his job and all of the duties it entails.

"So far, it's a lot of fun," he said. "I'm working with people who love the College. What's not to love about that?"

The Foundation was in need of an assistant director due to the increased amount of service and support in the

Curtis Betebenner
Assistant Director

College. It is responsible for a significant portion of funds by which the College is funded.

His job will help lighten the load on Sue Billingsly, the Foundation director.

"He is going to be the assistant to myself," she said. "Right now, he's in a training period of all the duties the Foundation provides."

Billingsly also said Betebenner's duties will include working with the annual Phonathon, investment committees, wills, and scholarships. One of his main purposes is to build a rapport with the faculty — something Billingsly wanted to do but hasn't because of the large amount of work.

There were 17 applicants for the position of assistant director, of which the Foundation chose three finalists. After that, a selection committee made up of Foundation board members designated one.

"He's doing very well, and we're very pleased to have him on," Billingsly said.

Betebenner said he wants to give back to the College which gave him, and wants to help students enjoy the opportunities he had throughout life.

Of his experiences, he said, "I've had a ball."

"It makes me feel good to come to work everyday," Betebenner said. "It's payback time." □

Physically, the library will expand toward the gymnasium and wrap around toward Hearnes Hall.

"We may be going out for bids and beginning construction in the fall," Leon said.

The College is hoping for completion of the project by the fall of 2000 or spring of 2001.

In the Ummel Technology Building, several changes will take place, but no footage will be added.

"We are going to provide additional space for the dental hygiene program and also provide some improvements in the manufacturing technology area," Leon said.

The main expansion will occur when the building's garage area is renovated. The space used to be part of the College's former automotive technology program. □

LIBRARY: Plans underway

From Page 1

tion of current space, and an added technology component, Leon said.

Head Librarian Charles Kemp said the project will nearly double the size of the current facility and incorporate state-of-the-art technology.

"The new addition and renovation will allow Spiva Library to be wired to take advantage of any new technology — satellite, cable, anything," Kemp said. "We really want to be a library for the 21st century."

POPE: Five attend St. Louis rallys to see John Paul II

From Page 1

youth rally," Jim Jackson said. "It was just an unbelievably festive affair."

The Missouri Southern group watched the pope's plane land from the Kiel Center and cheered for him from miles away.

"It was louder than any hockey game ever was," Jackson said.

During a message directed toward the youth, the pope called for today's young people to work toward a new morality in a new century, Jackson said.

Ellen Cox, a non-traditional senior general studies major, thought the pope was especially energized when talking with the youth.

"It was wonderful. The pope really conveyed a love for our youth in particular," she said.

"There was a lot of energy and power in the Kiel Center."

"It was an awesome experience to see someone who loved youth and all people so much," said Sara Shepherd, sophomore speech/theatre education major. "He was so strong to stand up and say what he believed in and that we should all believe that way. He just moved me so much."

Brenda Jackson mentioned that she was sur-

prised at how many references the pope made to United States and specifically the St. Louis area.

"I was impressed at how he personalized this visit," she said. "He talked about the sports arena and Mark McGwire and said teenagers were at the gateway of their faith."

Wednesday's Mass, held in the TWA Dome, focused on family issues.

"His big message was that the fertile ground of Christianity is the family," Jim Jackson said.

"And that the respect for family is the respect for life."

The demeanor of the pope was noticed by several members of the group.

"He really has more stamina than we were led to believe," Cox said. "He puts up with his pain, saying that life is a gift from God. How could you throw away a gift from God?"

Though the Missouri Southern contingent woke up at 3 a.m. Wednesday in order to make it to Mass on time, Jim Jackson says the trip was good for the group as a whole.

"Not only was it a festive atmosphere with those in St. Louis, but also among the five of us," he said.

"It was important for all of us to be together, making the journey together to see our leader." □

STADIUM: Turner suggests ballpark improvements

From Page 1

The field is distinct with irregular foul territory, a deep center field (415 feet), and a shallow right-field fence. What the right-field fence lacks in distance is made up for in height. A hill inside the playing field slopes up to two rows of advertisements and the right-center scoreboard.

Turner said a new facility would have more conventional dimensions of 325 feet down the foul lines, 400 feet to center, and more balanced gaps. And unlike Joe Becker, the bullpens would not be in play.

There are some unknowns about how Southern's game would be affected with a move to campus.

Even with the right field fences lower and center field closer, there is no guarantee more Lions will hit homers.

"Here we don't have the wind [at Joe Becker] with buildings around it," Turner said. "Over there [on campus] we could have wind."

Turner would like a berm built around an on-campus stadium to decrease the likelihood of wind interference.

He said Joe Becker is not obsolete.

"We have a nice playing surface, we have lights, we need some improvement on some of the light poles, but it's comparable [to other MIAA stadiums]," Turner said. "We have made it that way because we want a nice place to play."

Turner cares for the field year-round. Joplin High School and Joplin American Legion Post 13 also use the stadium.

"It takes a beating, a constant pounding," he said. "People are on it all the time."

The only months the field sits empty are August and December.

Turner said not as much maintenance would be required if a stadium was used only by Southern. □

HUNT: Anticipating travel

From Page 1

years. Her original job entailed writing news releases. It gradually expanded to publications and department newsletters. Now the public information office consists of multiple staff members with Hunt at the head.

The public information office is not the only thing that has expanded since Hunt's start in 1966.

"The student body has doubled," she said. "I've seen the whole evolution of the institution. I am basically an over-achiever. I am heavily involved in advertising."

Public information is not the only department at Southern who will miss Hunt.

"She brings an air of professionalism," said Dr. John Tiede, senior vice president. "She is one of the more creative persons I've seen in public information."

The thing Hunt will miss most when she retires is her staff.

"They're absolutely dedicated to what they do — they never stop," she said. "We're a team. I love having a lot of minds working together. We're always topping ourselves, reaching for new levels."

Tiede said a committee for filling Hunt's position will be put together in February or March.

"We're always sad to see anyone go who's spent that many years here at the College and done a fine job, but wish her well in retirement," Tiede said. □

ARREST: Runners apologize

From Page 1

arrest according to the report.

Upon a second attempt to warn Wells of his violation of the city ordinance, he and his running partners reportedly ran around the police car in an attempt to ignore the officer.

"That's where I made the mistake," Wells said. "I should have stopped and talked to him about his side of what was going on. No one really knew what was going on at the time."

After a larger group of runners passed the officer, the three runners approached the car and Wells, after making a remark "he shouldn't have," was arrested. Hill, after turning back to find out what the problem was, was tackled by a second policeman who had just arrived on the scene.

Wells and Hill were held in custody until Rutledge posted bail. In a later meeting involving Wallace, Rutledge, and Wells, it was concluded that the entire thing was "a misunderstanding."

"Both officers said it was a misunderstanding because they just don't know who these guys are," Rutledge said. "These are not criminals."

Rutledge said the prosecuting attorney would look into the case more, but he thought the charges would be dropped. □

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Campus Calendar

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Erin Sellers at 625-9311.



■ **Lions and Lady Lions** basketball vs. Emporia State at 5:30 p.m. Saturday in Young Gymnasium.

Sunday 31

12:20 p.m.—
Super Bowl party at Student Life Center, for information call 4190

17th Annual Missouri Southern Foundation Marathon starts, runs through Feb. 11

Tuesday 2

12:20 p.m.—
College Republicans meeting BSC 311

Wednesday 3

3:30 p.m.—
Student Teacher Seminar III TH113.
7 p.m.—
"True Love Waits" rally, sponsored by Koinonia, Taylor Auditorium

STUDENT FEATURE

Joplin police officer embraces new challenge

By BRIAN WIRTH
STAFF WRITER

There are police officers in Missouri Southern classrooms, not because students are causing trouble, but because the officers are furthering their education.

Sgt. Ken Kennedy of the Joplin Police Department enrolled here to take enough hours to pass a test and become a lieutenant.

"It takes 30 hours to test to be a corporal, 60 hours to become a sergeant, and 90 hours to become a lieutenant," he said.

Kennedy is not only here for the test, but also to earn a degree. His major is criminal justice.

Kennedy has worked for the Joplin Police Department for more than 19 years. He started going back to school about five years ago, taking around six hours a semester.

"It is pretty tough to go to school with a full-time job and a wife and three daughters," Kennedy said.

He is enrolled in six hours this semester — a history class and Physical Security, a criminal justice class.

Kennedy is pretty close to his degree goal. At the end of this semester he will have 98 hours. He needs 100 more hours to get his bachelor's degree.

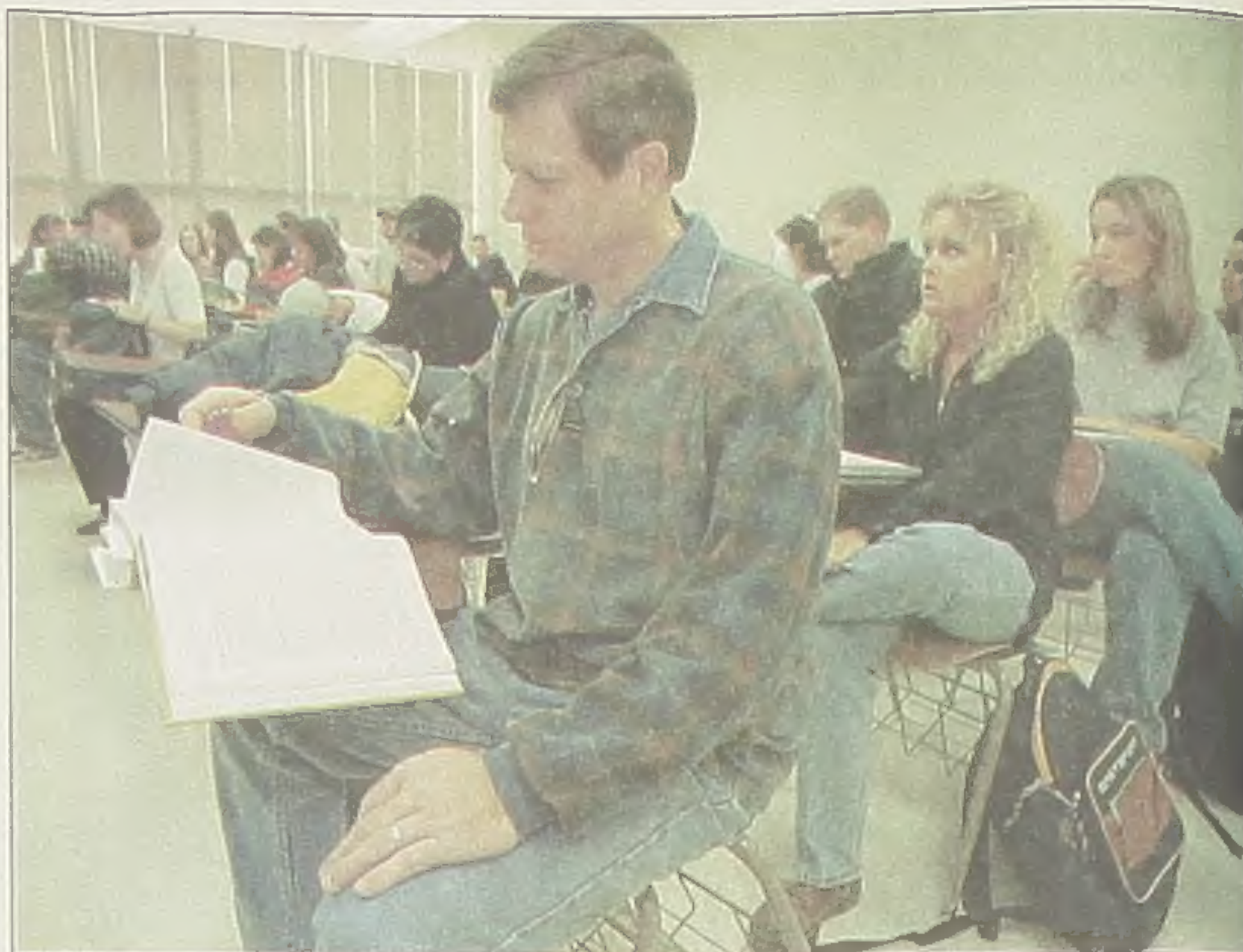
"I will probably take biology and possibly another class during the summer and hopefully get my degree in the next three years," Kennedy said.

He also receives help from the Joplin Police Department, which pays for the classes that deal directly with his job.

In class, Kennedy often is recognized by students and instructors.

"I have him in class and I knew who he was because I had seen him on the television before," said Dr. Karl Schmidt, assistant professor of history.

"School takes up a lot of my free time, but I enjoy it," Kennedy said. "Since I just started back five years ago, I really look at school with a different perspective. I enjoy it." □



Joplin police officer Ken Kennedy studies his book for Dr. Karl Schmidt's American history class. Kennedy returned to school to pursue a criminal justice degree.

NOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

BOOKSTORE LINEUP



ERIN SELLERS/The Chart

On Tuesday, Jan. 19 students wait in the notorious bookstore lines in hopes of getting their books and supplies for the spring semester.

THEATRE DEPARTMENT

Black box bidding drawing to a close

By CASSIE HOMBS
STAFF WRITER

Students parking in the stadium parking lot last week probably noticed the mountains of dirt hiding parts of Taylor Auditorium.

To many students' disappointment, Missouri Southern isn't building a swimming pool. Construction workers were simply finishing some electrical work for the College's next big project — the black box theatre.

The bid process is days from completion for this project, which is estimated to cost anywhere from \$800,000 to \$1 million.

The new black box theatre is a take-off from the Barn Theatre, a small theatre that was located on the campus years ago. It burned down in 1990.

"If you want a small, intimate setting, this theatre will be the perfect place," said Sam Claussen, associate professor of theatre. "It will be great for smaller productions."

"In this theatre, you will actually be able to see the actors' faces, whereas in Taylor Auditorium, the nearest an audience member can sit to the stage is still 30 feet away."

Being able to see the actors' faces isn't the only difference between the two theatres.

The black box theatre will look much like the way it sounds — a black box. The walls and ceiling are painted black, and the floor is wooden. The building will be about 5,000 square foot and will seat about 250 to 300. The stage lighting, sound equipment, and even the seating can be moved, rearranged, and taken out to leave a big, black, empty room if that's what the director desires.

"Many larger universities have black box theatres," Claussen said. "It's being done all over the country, because of its versatility."

The theatre department is not the only group on campus excited over this new addition to Southern. However, it definitely will be a big help to actors and directing students who need a space smaller than Taylor Auditorium in which to work.

"I'm pleased to see it," said Dr. John Tiede, senior vice president. "It's a benefit to the theatre department, and they've been needing something more flexible."

Once the bids are completed, the ground breaking will begin. Due to the construction, students' parking their cars on the Taylor Auditorium side of campus may want to take another route to class instead of cutting through the grass to Webster Hall or the music department.

Because of its proximity to the building, the circle drive now existing behind Phinney Hall will be moved back. The building will be built onto the Green Room of Taylor Auditorium and will be relatively close to Duquesne Road.

"Our goal is next fall," said Bob Beeler, head of the physical plant. "This is a desirable project for many contractors, and we're very excited to see it started." □

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD

Black History, Mardi Gras fill CAB's spring lineup

By ANGIE WILLIAMS
STAFF WRITER

Road trips, concerts, hockey, and parties are what the Campus Activities Board has planned for this semester, but it needs students' help.

"We're so limited with the money we have we can only do a couple of cool events each year," said Desiree Peterson, CAB president.

Activities sponsored by the CAB are funded by students' activity fees.

This fee automatically makes every student a member of the CAB, who encourages students to attend the general meetings the second and fourth Wednesdays of

the month from noon to 1 p.m.

"We need your support," Peterson said. "It's your money."

Val Carlisle, coordinator of student activities, said this semester consists of events ranging from Black History Month to hockey games.

In February, the CAB will provide students and faculty with opportunities to celebrate Black History Month with a series of lectures, movies, and other related activities.

A Mardi Gras party takes place on Tuesday, Feb. 16 in the Lions' Den from 8 p.m. to midnight.

There will be food, prizes, and beads, beads, and more beads.

"I really hope people will come; it's a good way to meet people," said Brett Doennig, dance committee chairman.

Galen Abdur-Razzaq, a jazz flutist, is the next event on the CAB agenda. On Thursday, Feb. 18, he will give a lecture on the history of jazz at 2 p.m. and a performance at 7 p.m. in Webster Hall auditorium.

"It's going to be a good time," Carlisle said. "It will be fun and it's free."

Although the dates haven't been set, the CAB is planning road trips to a hockey game and a concert.

Persons needing more information or to make a suggestion for a particular concert may contact the CAB office at 625-9669. □

66

It's going to be a good time. It will be fun and it's free!

Val Carlisle
Coordinator of student activities

Key player returns following Carnegie debut

By CASSIE HOMBS
STAFF WRITER

For those culturally-impaired students out there who think Carnegie Hall is a building they've not yet found on campus, tonight is their opportunity to add something new to their vocabulary.

Missouri Southern students and Joplin-area residents will have a chance to hear world-renowned pianist Kriszta Kovacs play in Webster Hall auditorium at 7:30 p.m. today. Kovacs, the 1998 Missouri Southern International Piano Competition winner, has returned from her debut at Carnegie Hall in New York City. In tonight's concert, "Return from Carnegie," Kovacs will play pieces she perfected dur-

ing her October concert in New York.

"We had about 20 people who went to New York with Kriszta to be her cheering section," said Vivian Leon, MSIPC director. "She was wonderful. We had judges, teachers, and contestants who came from all over to see her play."

Now Kovacs is back, returning to Missouri Southern to give audiences a taste of what they missed from her trip to Carnegie.

Jeff Skibbe, general manager of KXMS, Missouri Southern's radio station, will nar-

rate the evening. The concert will be broadcast live internationally on the Internet at www.kxms.org, and locally on KXMS (88.7).

"This is very exciting because someone on the other side of the world could log on to this address and watch the concert live on the Internet," Leon said. "They can see it at the exact same moment it's happening."

And although most people on the other side of the world may be sleeping at the moment of the concert, Leon promises this will be a concert worth waking up for.

"A judge who came to see Kriszta perform at Carnegie Hall commented that she was born to play piano," Leon said. "She was so good, and many of our people didn't get to see her performance in New York.

That is why we're bringing her back."

The MSIPC has also produced a CD, which has live music from the MSIPC competition last year.

Some of Kovacs' music that she will perform at her return concert is on the CD. It can be bought for \$10 in the MSIPC office, located in AU-237.

Kovacs was on campus yesterday to talk to elementary school students about playing piano, her native country of Hungary, and the music she would play at her return concert.

"We're trying to give Joplin an opportunity to see this type of entertainment," Leon said.

"Not very often do performances of this caliber come to this area. It's an opportunity for everyone." □

Kriszta Kovacs
MSIPC Winner



STONE'S THROW THEATRE

Local show stays diverse

Establishment entertains, feeding stomach and soul

By JO BETH HARRIS
STAFF WRITER

Just a stone's throw away from Carthage and Broadway, is how Stone's Throw Community Theatre received its name. Stone's Throw, located just west of Carthage, is a not-for-profit theater. Run by four main directors and a crew of volunteers, Stone's Throw is the only dinner theater in southwest Missouri and possibly the entire state to be operated by volunteers.

"That's what makes us different from other community theaters in this area, such as JLT (Joplin Little Theatre) — the fact that we are a community dinner theater," Henry Heckert, resident director, said.

Heckert, resident director since 1985, assumes many roles. He handles everything from building sets to cooking to handling the IRS. He is also the overall technical adviser.

"Since I was doing all of the work, they decided to give me a title," Heckert said. "It's not a one-man show by any means, but someone's got to do the dirty work."

In the theatre's upcoming production, *Any Wednesday*, Heckert acts as technical director. Soaya Kew directs the production, with Robert Moritz acting as apprentice director. Cody Dyer is stage manager and set assistant, with Kew in charge of makeup and hair design along with her assistant, Ashley Farley. Alyssa Bell is costume supervisor, with Moritz serving as property master. William Roehling is the producer for the production.

Any Wednesday, the season's fifth production by the UpSideDown Theater Company, is a comedy starring several local talents. Richard Lillard plays the young man in the play with D'Lisa McKee starring opposite as his disgruntled girlfriend. Jason Owen is the millionaire businessman and Sara Oxendine is the confused, long-suffering wife.

The four actors will keep the audience guessing until the final moments of the play which is called by one critic "a neat, nice, and awfully funny comedy."

The play runs today and Saturday and Feb. 5-7. Doors open at 6 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and a curtain time of 7:30 p.m. For the Sunday matinee, doors open at 12:30 p.m. with dinner at 1 p.m. and a curtain time of 2 p.m.

For information about productions and ticket costs, the phone number at Stone's Throw Community Theater is (417) 358-9665. Prepaid reservations are always required. □



David Hale, sophomore theatre major, Amy Jo Etcheson, senior general studies major, and Kristopher Stoker, sophomore theatre major, perform a scene from *Tartuffe: Born Again*. The production runs through Saturday.

JEFF BILLINGTON
The Chart

'Tartuffe' combines salvation and humor

By VINCE SWEENEY
STAFF WRITER

After watching the play *Tartuffe: Born Again* on Wednesday night, the audience seemed to be quite taken with the approach of this play.

The Southern Theatre play began with somewhat of a different stand, but proved to be a success. Most plays usually begin when the lights go out. For this play, the lights were not shut off until some acting had taken place.

This Jay Fields-directed play seemed much more relaxed than the average play. This was noticed immediately when Damis, played by James Jordan, came storming into Taylor Auditorium on roller blades. The audience looked surprised at this.

Another way that made the play seem

more relaxed was that there was music played through most of it. Most of this



Vince Sweeney
Staff Writer

holy man. *Tartuffe* seems to have his bluff in on Orgon, played by Kristopher Stoker, who believes he should marry his daughter

Maryanne, played by Mariah Kissel. However, Maryanne is in love with Valere, played by Darrin Lackey.

Family members and friends don't have much time to convince Orgon that *Tartuffe* is a fraud and not the right guy for Maryanne. In what little time they have, everyone gets together as a team and tries to show Orgon he can't see through the games *Tartuffe* is playing.

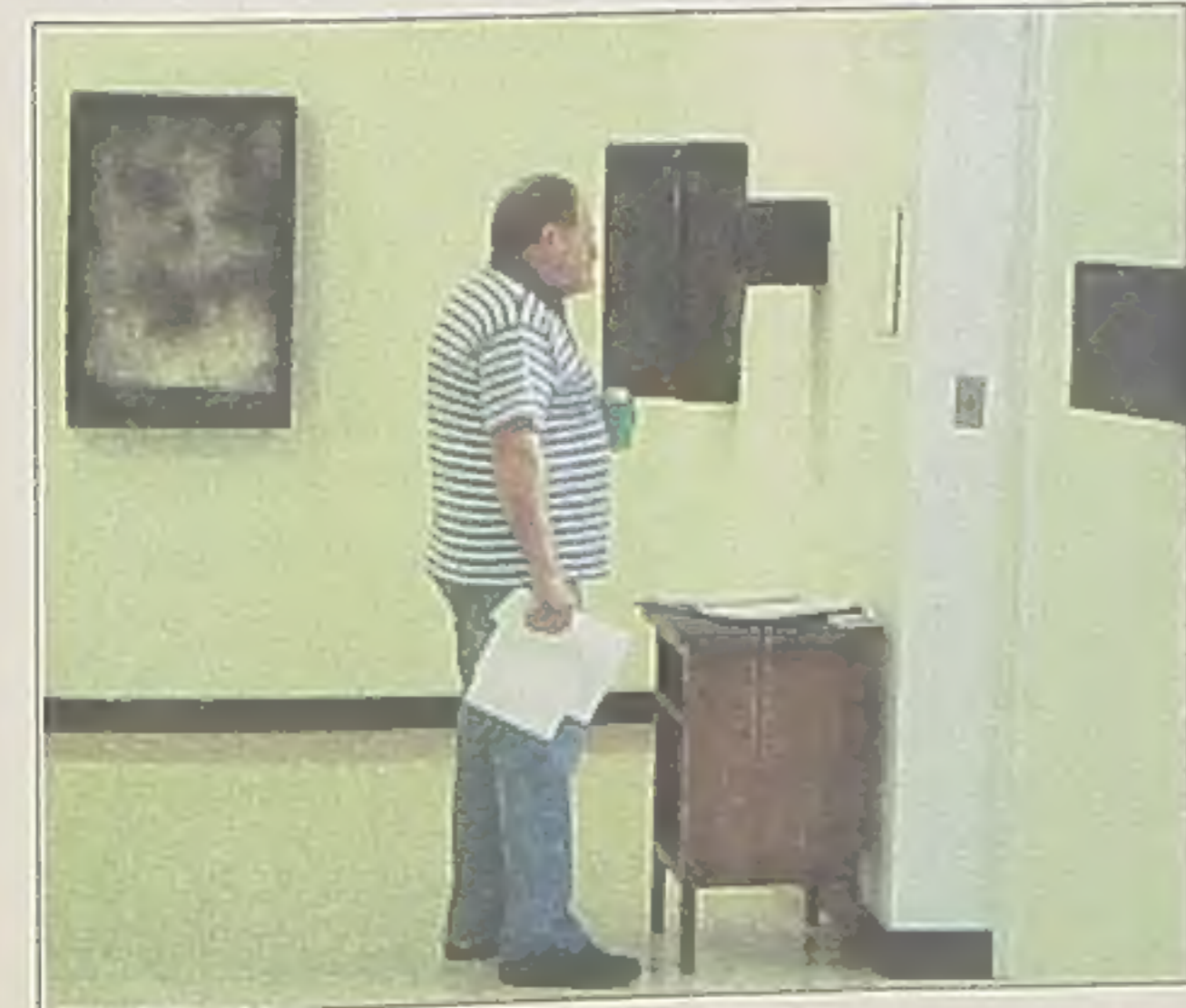
The best part about this play was the humor. All the actors seemed to be having fun. From the start, they made the whole audience explode with laughter.

As far as the acting goes, it was superb. It wasn't hard to tell the actors had put in a lot of time and should be proud of what they accomplished.

Tartuffe: Born Again continues at 7:30 p.m. today and Saturday in Taylor Auditorium. □

SPIVA ART GALLERY

Smith's creative side on display at Spiva Art Gallery



CHRIS ROBERTS/The Chart

Garry Hess, Instructor of Jewelry design, looks over the artwork of Eric Smith. Smith's work, titled "Chronic Landscapes," will be on display in the Spiva Art Gallery until February.

By CHRIS ROBERTS
STAFF WRITER

Finding that special something to inspire a person's creative side is not always easy to come by.

This does not seem to be the case, however, for L. Eric Smith, a Missouri Southern graduate who currently has his art exhibited in Spiva Art Gallery.

"There are certain words that form an indelible impression on the brain at the moment they are comprehended," he said in his exhibition statement. "Chronic is one such word. When something is chronic, it is inescapable. When one comes to terms with that reality, feelings of anger give way to resignation."

"The reality of having experienced something disturbing, irritating, and many times crippling for an indefinite period of time, is something that has been the focus of my work for the last few years. The latest manifestations of this subject have taken the form of landscapes and are intended to depict places in which one's mind resides, rather than one's body."

Incidentally, the title of the exhibit is "Chronic Landscape."

Art exhibits like Smith's are not something new to Southern's campus. In fact, most of the exhibits found throughout the year in the gallery are either from

College alumni or current students and sometimes even faculty.

"We like to show the work of our alumni so that our current students can see what life after graduation is like," said Val Christensen, assistant professor of art and Spiva Art Gallery coordinator.

He said the current exhibit is part of Smith's thesis exhibit for his master's degree. In addition to working toward his master's, Smith has a job as an associate instructor at Northwest Arkansas Community College. He is also a freelance illustrator.

His work was recently on view in the Spiva Biennial sponsored by the George A. Spiva Center for the Arts in Joplin. Last summer, one of his pieces was exhibited in New York at the Pleiades Gallery.

The campus exhibit has already seen quite a few onlookers since its opening on Jan. 18, bringing a wide variety of remarks.

"I like every piece individually, but I'm not sure about the entire collection," said Laura Oberbeck, a former art student at Southern.

"Powerful!" said Jesse Sportsman, a business major. "I found the pieces intensely moving."

Smith's work will continue to be shown through Feb. 12. Regular hours for the Spiva Art Gallery are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Admission is free and open to the public. □

Arts Showcase

Arts Calendar

If your organization has an event you would like publicized, call Eric Gruber at 625-9311.



■ Southern Theatre presents "*Tartuffe: Born Again*," a modern adaptation of Moliere's famous play. 7:30 p.m. January 27-30 in Taylor Auditorium.

Today
29
8 p.m.—

Stone's Throw Theatre presents "*Any Wednesday*" 7:30 p.m.—
"Return from Carnegie," Kriszta Kovacs Recital, Webster Hall Auditorium

Saturday
30
8:30 p.m.—

Forty-six, Carbon Star, Initial Detonation at BTB Skatepark

February
Wednesday
3
7 p.m.—

"Heartbeat: The International Show" on MSTV

Thursday
4
7:30 p.m.—

Community Concert, John Bayless, Taylor Auditorium

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

HIGHER EDUCATION NEWS BRIEFS

SMSU plans for new infant/toddler laboratory

Plans for a new \$1.2 million child/infant development center and playground were unveiled Thursday during an open house at Southwest Missouri State University's infant/toddler laboratory.

SMSU's department of consumer and family studies opened the newly renovated infant/toddler laboratory in April 1998 to serve 32 infants and toddlers aged 6 weeks to 2 years of age. It serves as temporary housing for the laboratory until the child/infant development center is completed.

The new child/infant development center will open in August. It will house 100 children involved in preschool programs as well as the infant/toddler laboratory.

Recently, the Springfield Target store decided to assist the infant/toddler laboratory by donating \$1,000 for new child-care equipment. □

SEMO alleviating cost for out of state students

The cost of attending Southeast Missouri State University in the fall will be lighter on the pocketbooks of students in 35 Illinois counties, thanks to a new program recently approved by Southeast's budget review committee.

The action has resulted in the long-awaited Regional Achievement Award, a pilot program that will provide students with a credit for the difference between incidental fees for Missouri resident and non-resident students. The difference is about \$2,500 a year.

"This levels the playing field," said Doug Aschermann, principal of Nashville (Ill.) High School.

"It renews our confidence in Southeast's commitment to Southern Illinois."

High school graduates from the 35-county area in Illinois must score 21 or higher on the ACT and have a minimum 2.75 grade-point average. Awards will be made to the first 200 who qualify and are registered before June 1.

"We have seen Arkansas State, Murray (Ky.) State, and Southern Illinois University embrace the idea of outreach for students in Missouri," said Jay Goff, Southeast director of admissions.

"This our first step at embracing the concept of outreach for students in Illinois and in following suit with what other schools are already doing."

Illinois students, parents, teachers, and school counselors have discussed the need for a program like this for a decade, Goff said. □

Truman State names McNerny to new honor

Ralph McNerny, whose "Father Dowling" mysteries were the basis of a three-year television series, has been named the first Distinguished Visiting Scholar at Truman State University.

McNerny, a professor of medieval studies at the University of Notre Dame, visited the campus Jan. 19-22. He will return for a second visit in March.

The Distinguished Visiting Scholar program is a new initiative contained in Truman's mission enhancement proposal, approved by the Missouri Coordinating Board for Higher Education.

Each year, the program will bring speakers, artists, musicians, and researchers to interact with the academic community.

The theme chosen for this spring, "Connecting and Interconnecting Perspectives," will focus attention on the potential for interdisciplinary thinking and multiple cultural perspectives and highlight the connections among the "modes of inquiry" that span and expand upon the traditional liberal arts and sciences curriculum.

McNerny, who has taught at Notre Dame since 1955, has written numerous books and articles on St. Thomas Aquinas. For additional information, persons may visit www2.truman.edu/vscholar. □

"I believe we can do more this session in the area of school accountability by ensuring that children are mastering the basic, particularly in the early grades."

Taxes, education, health lead State of State

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

JEFFERSON CITY—Working on behalf of a better life for others as the new millennium approaches was the predominant theme in Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan's State of the State address Jan. 20.

Carnahan introduced the address by saluting three Missouri residents whom he considered to be making a difference in the lives of others, then spoke to the legislators saying, "Today, I come before you to ask your cooperation in working on behalf of the best interests of the people of Missouri as we prepare to meet the challenges of a new century."

While speaking to the economy side of the state, the governor named Missouri's unemployment rate at 3.3 percent, compared to a national average of 4.1 percent, the lowest in 20 years.

"Our aggressive approach to economic

development and our landmark welfare reform efforts have made the difference," Carnahan said.

In the area of workforce development, he lobbied for a more efficient job placement system, calling the current system "fragmented."

"Many Missourians who seek employment and training services are still being bounced from office to office to have their needs met," Carnahan said.

Headlining the governor's address on health care was the tobacco issue.

"Approximately 15 percent of all Missouri adults smoke," he said. "Even more alarming, recent studies indicate that more than 40 percent of our state's teenagers smoke."

He also referenced the recent tobacco settlement as something that could be used to pay health care debt due to tobacco use as well as to curb current smoking habits.

One controversial issue mentioned in the speech was tax cuts, offered up by the governor to be "permanent tax relief."

Rep. Chuck Surface (R-Joplin) says the tax reform could be vastly expanded.

"We could have done major tax cuts several years ago and been fine," he said. "We're doing very well in the economy, and there's no reason why we can't give more money

back than what we just have to."

"Taxation in Missouri has taken us from being the 49th lowest-taxed state to the 16th highest in the last five years, and we're really taking in more money than we need to."

Surface did, however, agree with statements the governor made in his speech concerning quality of educational standards.

"I believe we can do more this session in the area of school accountability by ensuring that children are mastering the basics, particularly in the early grades," Carnahan said.

The governor continued by outlining a plan for revamping remedial classes and offering summer tutorials for those students who fail to keep up with others in their grade.

"I have to give him credit for talking about not passing children through the grades on social promotion rather than on merit," Surface said.

"I've been an advocate of talking about this for a long time."

BUDGET

With the release of the 2000 budget, Missouri Southern was able to glimpse the amount the governor's office will recommend the College receive.

While the College requested \$22,155,246, the governor is recommending \$20,911,773.



Mel Carnahan
Missouri Governor

DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?



As part of National Eye Care Awareness Month, which is observed in January, Rep. Bill Luetkenhaus (D-Josephville) has his eyes examined during free eye screening at the state capitol.

STATE TREASURER'S OFFICE

Farm loan extension could offer relief

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—Missouri farmers in 104 counties will benefit from a recent decision from State Treasurer Bob Holden's office.

The word from Holden's office extends eligibility to farmers who are in their final year of reduced-cost loans and live within one of the 104 counties declared to be weather-related disaster areas by the U.S. secretary of agriculture and the president during 1998.

"The motivation was we had legislators that wanted to help farmers," said Chuck Miller, communications director for Holden's office. "And, one of the suggestions was extending eligi-

bility one year on some low-interest loans."

The decision, announced Jan. 19, will benefit those farmers in all counties surrounding Jasper including Barry, Barton, Dade, Lawrence, Newton, and Vernon; however, Jasper is not included.

Extending eligibility was a decision made partly in response to the General Assembly's Joint Committee on Small Farms and Value-Added Agriculture who asked for additional assistance to farmers within the weather-disaster areas.

Low production due to weather conditions is expected to bring a significant reduction in the money agriculture brings in statewide.

"In 1997, agriculture resulted in

\$5.5 billion output in raw goods," Miller said. "In '98 they expect that to be off by about \$1 billion."

"When you talk about losing 20 percent of production due to weather, that's a big problem."

While offering an extension may curb some of the pressure for struggling farmers, Rep. Martin (Bubs) Hohulin (R-Lamar) says it is much less relief than the state can realistically offer the entire Missouri farming community.

"Every little bit helps, but the bottom line is that it's still a loan and has to be paid back with interest," he said.

Hohulin thinks there are several additional steps the state could take to alleviate pressure from farmers.

"First, we need meaningful tax

relief," he said. "Under Gov. Carnahan, our budget has increased \$1 billion each year."

"We also need some regulatory relief. Every time that the DNR (Department of Natural Resources) puts in a new rule or regulation, that's a cost that has to be picked up by the farmer."

Hohulin believes there must be a limit to the power of environmental groups such as the DNR, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in the area of farming.

"Nobody wants to breathe dirty air or drink dirty water, or have their kids do it," he said. "But at the same time, many problems brought up by environmentalists are either overblown or do not exist." □

This 4.8 percent increase is the smallest percentage increase among four-year institutions.

"I think that what happened is that we are in the last year of our mission enhancement and other schools are in the beginning of theirs, and that accounts for some of it," College President Julio Leon said.

Leon said the difference between the lowest and average percentages was very low.

"I also think that the percent for increase, as far as inflationary increase to the existing budget was the same for all institutions," he said.

One concern the College had was that international mission funding for this year would be split with next year's budget due to state financial constraints.

"That didn't happen because the governor treated it as a mandatory expenditure," Leon said.

Surface says he believes Southern often receives a lesser portion compared with other institutions.

"We've never been one to get the lion's share of anything because we've done better and with less money than other schools have," he said.

"It's gotten more bang for the buck than most schools do." □

HIGHER EDUCATION

MOSTARS introduces new aid

Program tries to close gap in college funding

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—Several students across the state, including 188 from Missouri Southern, received an unexpected gift from the financial aid office shortly before Christmas.

The money was awarded as a part of one of Missouri's new student aid programs, the Bridge Scholarship.

"In Gov. Carnahan's budget for last year he allotted \$4.9 million for this scholarship," said Dan Peterson, deputy director of MOSTARS (Missouri Student Assistance Resource Service).

The scholarship is given to students who are within their first two years of college.

"This is because students who earn a two-year degree are highly marketable," Peterson said. "It makes them more competitive. This is just another vehicle for Gov. Carnahan to provide aid to post-secondary students."

In deciding the allocation each student will receive per semester, a base number of \$2,000 is given.

From there, Pell Grant, Hope Scholarship, and state grant money is subtracted to come up with the amount the student will need to "bridge" the gap for tuition expenses.

Six thousand students attending 76 different schools statewide received Bridge funds, Peterson said.

"The Bridge Scholarship goes from 1,240 [University of Missouri-Columbia] students benefiting, to one student benefiting [at other institutions], so this program has a broad range," he said.

Mark Frerer, Southern financial aid counselor, said the program is helpful to all students who qualify.

"Anytime you're getting free money you don't have to pay back, it's a benefit," he said.

Because the scholarship has to factor in aid from other sources, it was not put into student accounts until late last semester, which accounts for the refund checks some students received.

"With the timing of the appropriation process, we are behind most other assistance programs," Peterson said. "We're not scheduled to do spring Bridge payments until the third week of February."

Frerer said the money may also show up on financial aid statements as a deduction from a student's loan amount.

"It's just that much less the students will have to borrow," he said. □

CITY OF JOPLIN

Water park construction waves in this year

By MARLA HINKLE
CITY NEWS EDITOR

Rapid waters, lazy rivers, and leisure pools will offer a variety of water pleasures when Joplin's new waterpark opens in the summer of 2000.

While all the details concerning the pool elements have not yet been decided, a basic description of attractions was stated by Matthew Allen, assistant to the city manager. Allen said there will be a zero-depth entry pool that mimics the entry into an ocean, a

leisure pool, a waterslide tower, and an innertube slide with 600 linear feet of motion water. There will also be an action branch of rapid water, and inside the rapids, an oval island for children. The park will be interactive with a dry-beach element, lots of green lawn space with pavilions, and real shade trees in order to keep a natural environment. The atmosphere is to be a family one, Allen said.

The proposal for the park came about as part of a park and recreation management study indicating the need to replace pools

about every 10 years as they become outdated to new generations of swimmers.

"There will not be any facilities for competitive swimming," Allen said. "The elements of this park are designed for entertainment purposes only."

The Schifferdecker Park pool currently hosts competitions, but will close next season. This leaves pools at Cunningham Park and Ewert Park for competitive swimmers.

Allen said admission fees would be in the benchmark range of

\$5.50 for adults and \$2.50 for children.

"With the admission fee, we would expect people to stay between three to four hours," he said. "The park would be self-supporting."

A feasibility study conducted by the City Council found the admission price was not high in accordance with the cost of the estimated \$4 million price tag on the facility. Allen said the water level in the park will not exceed three feet, but there are still benefits for adults. The leisure pool and lazy river

could be used as a therapeutic device for people afflicted with arthritis. Because of the gentle current, this would be ideal for some adults.

"If there are no swimming areas for adults, that might deter me from going," said Glenda Arner, a senior English major at Missouri Southern.

"I have preteens and teenagers I take to the Pittsburg aquatic park, so I probably will not go to the waterpark without young children with me who would enjoy the shallow water." □

JOPLIN R-8

Transition of schools nears end

By PHYLLIS DETAR
STAFF WRITER

During its last meeting, the Joplin R-8 School Board voted to complete its grade reconfiguration program recommended by a planning committee five years ago.

"As of next fall, the present grade schools will house kindergarten through five, and the North and South Middle Schools and the old high school building at Eighth and Wall will be used as middle schools," said Dr. Vernon Hudson, superintendent of schools. "The high school will be accommodating ninth through 12th grades."

"Allowing Franklin Technical School to share facilities at Missouri Southern helped the Joplin school system in realigning its middle school program. We were able to hold classes in that building (Franklin Tech building), which helped make room for the extra grade at the high school."

In 1993, the school board appointed a planning committee consisting of some 30 educators to recommend the direction the board should go in regard to grade configuration.

At that time, the grades were separated into kindergarten through five; six through seven; eight through nine; and 10 through 12.

After many meetings, the committee recommended in a report to the board that the Joplin school system adopt a kindergarten through five, a six through eight, and a nine through 12 configuration.

In 1998, the board moved to change the separations into a nine through 12 high school, leaving one building of eighth graders and the other two middle schools for grades six and seven.

The board wanted to have one more year to implement the recommended grade configuration plan.

The committee believes students would be better served by reducing the number of student transitions from four to three. Members also think it more appropriate to place eighth graders with sixth and seventh graders.

"We were probably accelerating them too quickly," Hudson said. "We needed to slow down their social development. We need to let maturation take place."

The move is fiscally responsible since Joplin R-8 already has the three existing buildings that meet the requirements to make the transition, Hudson said.

The controversy has been minimal.

"When you consider we have over 7,000 students, the number of parents we have had at any meeting has not been more than 10," he said.

Keith Zeka, R-8 assistant superintendent for operations, is in charge of the changes.

The next step is to assign teachers. The facility at Eighth and Wall needs a new name. East, Central, Midtown, and Memorial have been suggested. The board will select one by the end of February, he said.

"We are moving full speed ahead," Zeka said. "We will ask all the current teachers where they would like to teach. All students know which school they are going to attend. When pre-enrollment occurs the first of March, the parents will be able to request a change to the middle school they want their children to attend."

The rooms are already equipped, and the transition will be complete for the opening of school next fall, he said. □

LOCAL FEATURE

“ I will serve for anything that’s good ”



HOPPADOL PAOTHONG/The Chart

Larry Hickey, former Joplin mayor, relaxes at his home south of Joplin. As mayor, Hickey was instrumental in helping recruit such area businesses as F.A.G. Bearings and Motorola. Hickey and wife Virginia are also active in the Missouri Southern International Piano Competition.

Hickey enjoys life, success in Joplin

By JEFF BILLINGTON
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

In the last 30 years of Joplin's history, Larry Hickey has virtually become a household name.

Born and raised in Coffeyville, Kan., during the Great Depression, Hickey started bettering himself at an early age.

"I had great motivation by my mother and father," he said. "I started working at age 10."

Hickey graduated from Coffeyville Junior College in 1941 and went on to graduate from the University of Kansas in 1943 with a bachelor of science degree in business administration.

"Upon graduation I was sent to midshipmen school, Northwestern University," Hickey said. "It's officers training for the United States Navy. I served two and a half years aboard ship, mostly in the Pacific, Okinawa, Iwo Jima. I was aboard a destroyer, the U.S.S. Herndon. I was communications officer aboard it."

The ship Hickey was aboard saw the famous suicide maneuver that Japanese pilots were known for.

"We endured the kamikaze where the Japanese threw their planes up on the deck of the ships," he said. "We were very fortunate we knocked down three of them."

Hickey received an honorable discharge in June 1946.

"A week later, I started working at Phillips Petroleum Company in Bartlesville," he said.

Hickey continued with Phillips, eventually becoming the sales manager in Kansas City. He came to Joplin in 1955, and 19 years later, acquired Larry Hickey Distributing.

“ Larry has been long recognized as a high standing member of the community. ”

Tracey Osborne
Vice President
Chamber of Commerce

"There was an opening here for the beer distributorship for a man who was no longer in the business," Hickey said. "I was fortunate to get it."

Since then, he said business has tripled in spite of the addition of new competition.

Hickey became involved in city politics by accepting a position on the City Council. In 1968, he became the mayor of Joplin, serving for two terms ending in 1972.

"One of the Council members resigned because of work change out of town, and I was appointed to that post for the end of his term, three or four months, then was asked by others to be a candidate for mayor, and I said, 'Sure if you want me,' so I was voted by the City Council for mayor," he said.

While in office, Hickey helped bring FAG Bearings to Joplin, along with Motorola. At the time, a one-cent city sales tax was also passed, making Joplin the first in the state to do so.

Tracey Osborne, vice president of the Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce, said

the city's current status has been helped by Hickey over the years.

"There's no question that Larry's been influential in making Joplin economically strong by helping to recruit industry," she said.

Even today, Hickey said he and his wife, Virginia, are still active in the community.

"We're chairman for the new YMCA," he said. "She's active in the Girl Scout campaign. I was chairman for raising the money for the new Spiva Arts Center downtown — just about anything that has come along that is good."

The Hickeys are also active in the Missouri Southern International Piano Competition and sponsor the Hickey-Huckle Golf Tournament. They have given gifts and endowments to several institutions of higher education, including Missouri Southern, Crowder College, and the University of Kansas.

"We've given two scholarships at Missouri Southern," he said.

Osborne said the Hickeys are locally renowned individuals.

"Larry has been long recognized as a high standing member of the community," she said. "He and his wife have both been recognized as outstanding citizen of the year by the Chamber of Commerce."

Hickey hopes to continue to support local causes in the future.

"If asked, I will serve for anything that's good, not only for Joplin, but for the whole area community," he said.

Recently, Hickey said he and his wife received a honor from Crowder College.

"We gave a gift to Crowder College, and they named a building after us over in Webb City," he said. "So, we will continue helping where we can in bettering higher education." □

REGIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Freeman presenting health fair for employees

Freeman Health System is celebrating American Heart Month with heart fairs for its employees. The screenings began Tuesday and continue today from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. today at the Freeman West Atrium at 1102 W. 32nd St. Health screenings will include vital signs, cholesterol, glucose, EKG, and body fat analysis. Persons needing more information may contact Kyle Robinson in marketing and public relations at 625-6621. □

\$7.6 million Range Line construction now under way

The Range Line Bypass will provide a high-speed, limited-access through route east of Joplin from Interstate 44 to U.S. Business Route 71 at Carterville. The first two segments will include an interchange at Interstate 44, a four-lane highway from the interstate to just south of 20th Street, and the two-lane section between 20th and Seventh Streets. The estimated cost of these two segments is \$7.6 million. Construction is expected to be completed in 2000. □

Local reading program volunteers for children

Rolling Readers USA, an Americorps-Vista read aloud program, trains volunteer readers and tutors. The Rolling Reader volunteer reads story books aloud to children one hour a week on a regular basis. Volunteers are presently active at McKinley Elementary School in Joplin and in Head Start programs sponsored by the Economic Security Corporation in Joplin, Webb City, Neosho, Granby, Oak Grove, Seneca, Anderson, Pineville, Noel, and Longview. Interested persons may contact Larry Meacham Sr., chapter coordinator, at 626-8771 for more details. □

St. John's presents fair to promote healthy hearts

St. John's Regional Medical Center will be hosting A Fair of the Heart from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sat., Jan. 30 at the John Q. Hammons Trade Center. The fair will consist of activities and seminars.

The screenings offer visits with healthcare professionals. For children, there will be opportunities to learn about health with activities and games. There will also be free t-shirts given to the first 2,500 Heart Fair participants.

There will be four seminars. The first is at 8:30 a.m. and will be on the subject of irregular heart beats.

At 10 a.m., topics dealing with depression dealing with family members or patients that have heart disease. A different perspective on estrogen replacement therapy will be at 11:30 a.m., and at 1 p.m., a discussion on cholesterol. □

Arbor Day Foundation gives free flowering trees

Ten flowering trees are being offered to each person who joins the National Arbor Day Foundation during Jan. The trees are two white flowering dogwoods, two golden rain-trees, two flowering crabapples, two Washington hawthorns and two American redbuds. To become a member, send a \$10 contribution to Ten Free Flowering Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 110 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410. □

Crowder College receives appropriation award

Crowder College received a one-time only appropriation from the state. Gov. Mel Carnahan released the award of \$425,000 this month. The funds had previously been withheld last June due to a lawsuit filed by former Auditor Margaret Kelly, which was the cause for delay.

President of Crowder College Kent Farnsworth says the money will be used for the renovation of the former Nevada State Hospital Administration building. Crowder College has offered courses in Nevada since 1995. There are about 110 students currently enrolled in college courses in Nevada. With the addition of the new facility, Farnsworth says, enrollment figures should double. □

A CLOSER LOOK

Friday, January 29, 1999

An adventure
TRAINING GROUND
in Belize

SPECIAL TO THE CHART

Coral Shoe, sophomore biology major, talks with patients at the hospital in San Ignacio.

Journey widens medical perspective

By GINNY DUMOND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Many people world wide know Belize for its white sandy beaches, but several Missouri Southern students had the opportunity to get to know the country and its people in a very different way.

In search of medical experience, 10 students along with Dr. Vickie Roettger, assistant professor of biology, and Barry Waack, D.O., a resident physician with Freeman Health System, set out for the Central American country on Jan. 3. The students were Traci Branz, sophomore nursing applicant major; Jessica Cales and Brandon Wynn, senior biology majors; Gabrielle Lett, junior sociology major; Chris Feeney, junior biology major; Coral Shoe and Jenny Seedorf, sophomore biology majors; Carl Koenig, freshman biology major; Amberlee Irons, freshman nursing applicant major; and Candace Platner, a December 1998 biology graduate.

The 14-day journey in which the group toured and worked in several hospitals within the developing country was spearheaded by Cales, who was part of a similar trip last year.

"I loved the country and the experience so much last year and really wanted to go back," she said.

Needing a topic for her senior thesis for the honors program, Cales saw the opportunity to return to Belize and study the doctor-patient relationship in an environment different from the United States. Part of her research included filling out questionnaires with the locals after they received treatment.

"That was a good experience for me because I got to talk with patients and find out what they did and didn't like," she said. "I found, when we were at the private hospital, that people had come from as far away as Honduras to receive treatment there."

Roettger said the trip was invaluable to the pre-medicine students, affording them the opportunity to do things they would never get to do in the states without a degree.

"Some of the students got to give injections, they handed out prescriptions, they changed dressings, took vital signs, watched surgeries, watched a birth, and a lot of them were with doctors during examinations," she said.

Cooperation on the part of the doctors in Belize was one of the high points of the trip for many students. They often worked side-by-side with the

local physicians who tried to include students in every aspect of the work.

"English is the main language there, but many of the people speak Spanish," Roettger said. "So, the doctors would talk to them in Spanish and then translate for us in English."

Having any education from the U.S. made the group members popular among the medical staffs, Wynn said.

"A lot of the doctors even looked up to us, sometimes almost as if we were the teacher and they were the student," he said.

Wynn had several cultural experiences traveling with his group of three females in Belize City and San Ignacio.

"People would call out to me, 'Doctor, doctor, your nurses are very attractive,' and I just smiled and took it as a compliment," he said.

Feeney said the time they spent at the hospitals affirmed his desire to continue in medicine.

"I wanted to see first-hand how doctors reacted in certain situations and to see if I could pretty much hack it in the medical profession," he said. "I hope I'll be able to."

Feeney recounted one of his favorite moments of the trip.

"I got to see a surgery, which was fantastic, and probably one of the most amazing things that happened down there," he said.

Besides the experience within the hospitals, students were able to visit the Caribbean Sea and explore the country's Mayan ruins, which Roettger names as a real highlight.

"In the U.S., you would have to stay 50 feet away and no flash-photography, but we got to climb in and out and on top of the ruins," she said.

The trip was partially funded by Missouri Southern's Institute of International Studies, and Roettger believes the trip was everything one could want from such a venture.

"We couldn't have done it without the international mission," she said. "I think students came back with greater appreciation of what we have in the U.S."

"I think it has affected them to be there instead of just see pictures."

Feeney feels so strongly about the trip's impact on medical hopefuls he plans to organize a similar trip for next year's winter break.

"It's something that would benefit every med student if they could experience it," Feeney said. "You get a good first-hand look at every aspect of the medical profession." □



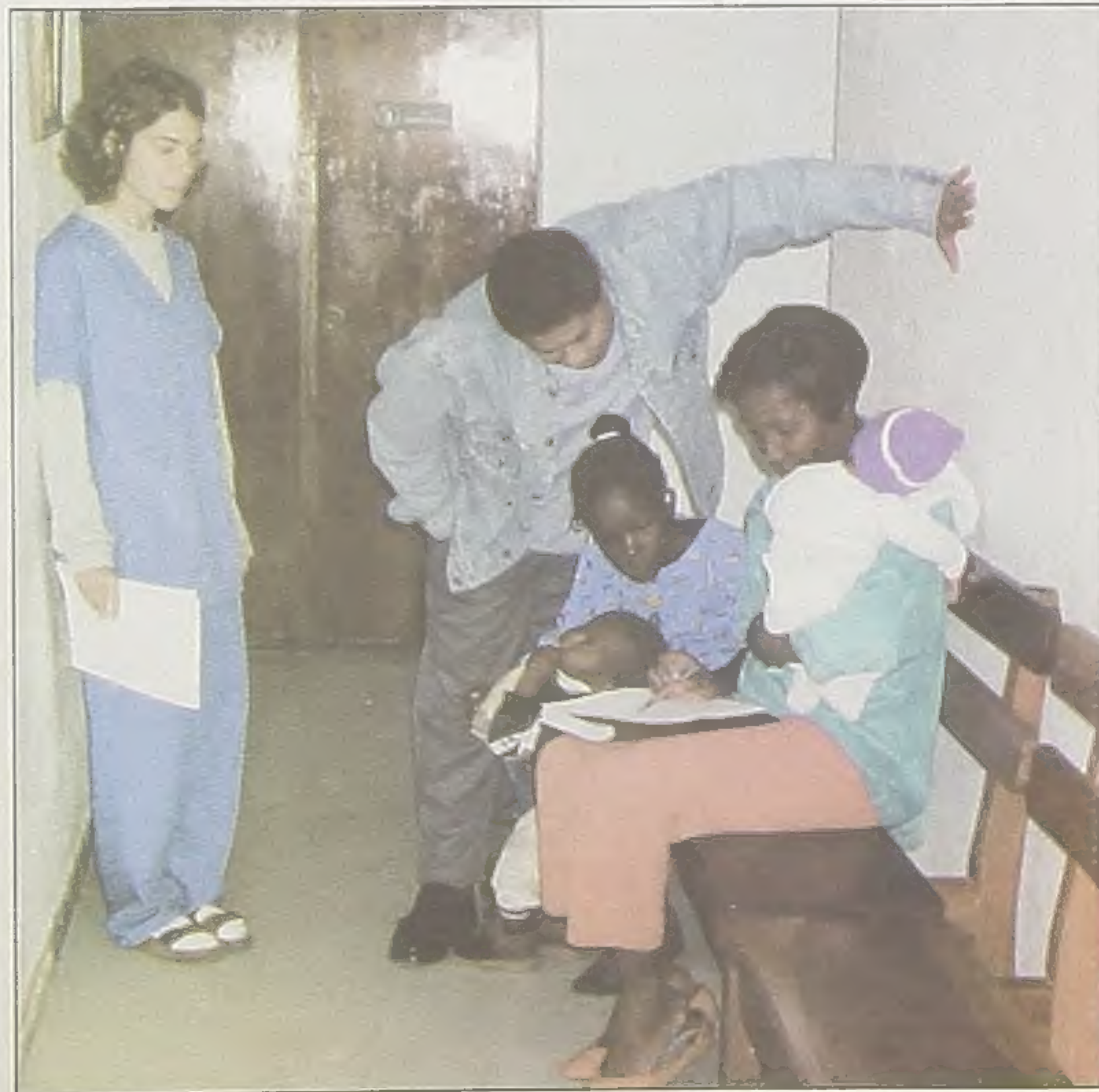
SPECIAL TO THE CHART

Chris Feeney, junior biology major, uses the medical skills he has learned to assess a young patient at the hospital in San Ignacio, Belize.



SPECIAL TO THE CHART

While making trips to the different hospitals in the Central America country of Belize, the group takes the time to visit Hidden Valley Falls.



SPECIAL TO THE CHART

Jessica Cales, senior biology major, watches as patients at the hospital in Loma Luz, Belize, fill out a survey over the doctor/patient relationship.

INDOOR TRACK & FIELD

Dotson jump lands him first in nation

By ROBBY BALL
STAFF WRITER

With two weeks already gone in the spring semester, the Missouri Southern men's and women's indoor track teams have hit the ground running.

After two consecutive meets at the University of Arkansas, the season hits high gear this weekend.

"We really used these past two meets to experiment with the younger runners on the team," said men's head coach Tom Rutledge. "It lets us see how they have improved and what they need to improve on."

Weather has hampered their workouts

somewhat, but that will all change next season.

"We are at a disadvantage right now without the use of an indoor facility," Rutledge said. "But when the new facility is ready, our team will make strides."

With a strong conference and a young team, this year will be a building block for the next couple of years.

"We are going to take some lumps this year," Rutledge said. "But our young kids are improving well, and we aren't going to lose many from this team."

Junior high jumper Kevin Dotson was named MIAA athlete of the week after earning a national qualifying jump of seven foot and three and a quarter inches. Dotson is also ranked No. 1 in the nation.

"Kevin is a worker, and I'm happy to see this happen for him," Rutledge said. "He's a good kid who has worked hard and deserves it."

With most of the sprinters freshmen as well, the Lions have much to look forward to in the future.

"It will take some time for them to learn what it takes at this level," Rutledge said. "But they are making strides and will do just fine."

On the women's side, Tina Keller was named athlete of the week in the MIAA with a provisional qualifying run of 8.26 seconds in the 50-meter hurdles.

"She is one of our senior leaders," said Patty Vavra, head women's track and field and cross country coach. "She ran well

and now has a chance to go to nationals."

Stephanie Wainscott also earned a provisional qualifying honor in the shot put with a throw of 43 feet and a quarter inch.

"Stephanie is another of our seniors," Vavra said. "We have four seniors, and they really are the strength of our team."

The other two seniors who run for the Lady Lions are sprinter Heather Hoyle and Amanda Harrison, whose mile time has improved seven seconds.

"They really work hard and lead by example," Vavra said. "We have a good group of youngsters, and these seniors are teaching them well."

The Lions and Lady Lions will head to the University of Kansas today, and then to Pittsburg State University Saturday. □

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Gorillas continue streak with victory over Lions

By RUSSELL DAKE
STAFF WRITER

Concluding a strenuous four-game road swing, Missouri Southern traveled the short distance to Pittsburg Wednesday to battle rival Pittsburg State University.

Pitt State (17-1, 8-0), first in the conference standings, dealt the Lions a 81-65 setback. The victory extended the Gorillas' home-winning streak to 35 games. Pitt State, currently ranked No. 6 in the nation, owns the second-longest active home-winning streak in NCAA Division II.

Southern jumped out to an early 14-13 advantage against the nationally ranked Gorillas. Center Matt Olson scored eight of the Lions' first 14 points, as three ties and four lead changes occurred in the first seven minutes.

Pitt State knotted the game at 16-16 with 13:00 left in the first half and proceeded on a 20-8 run over the next 9:56 to build a 12-point lead at 34-22.

The Lions managed to cut the lead to seven points before the end of the half. Senior Larry Gause drained a driving basket with just seconds remaining on the clock. The shot sent Southern into the intermission trailing only 37-30.

The Lions managed to score only four points in the first three minutes of the second half, enabling the Gorillas to extend the lead to 15 points with 16:57 remaining in the game.

"The disappointing thing was that during the run in the first half we got some shots and we got some things at the basket. We just couldn't get a break," said head coach Robert Corn. "You know you can't allow yourself to shoot poorly when you come against a good team, and Pittsburg State is a good team."

Southern (7-11, 3-5) shot just 35 percent

for the game and got manhandled on both the offensive and defensive glass. The Gorillas owned a 46-21 bulge overall, with a 17-6 margin on the offensive boards.

Leading the Lions with 15 points was Olson, 10 of those coming in the first half. Gause pitched in with nine points, followed by guard Mario Phillips with eight points.

"We still have a lot to play for," Corn said. "Our next two games are at home. It's very important to regroup and get some confidence back."

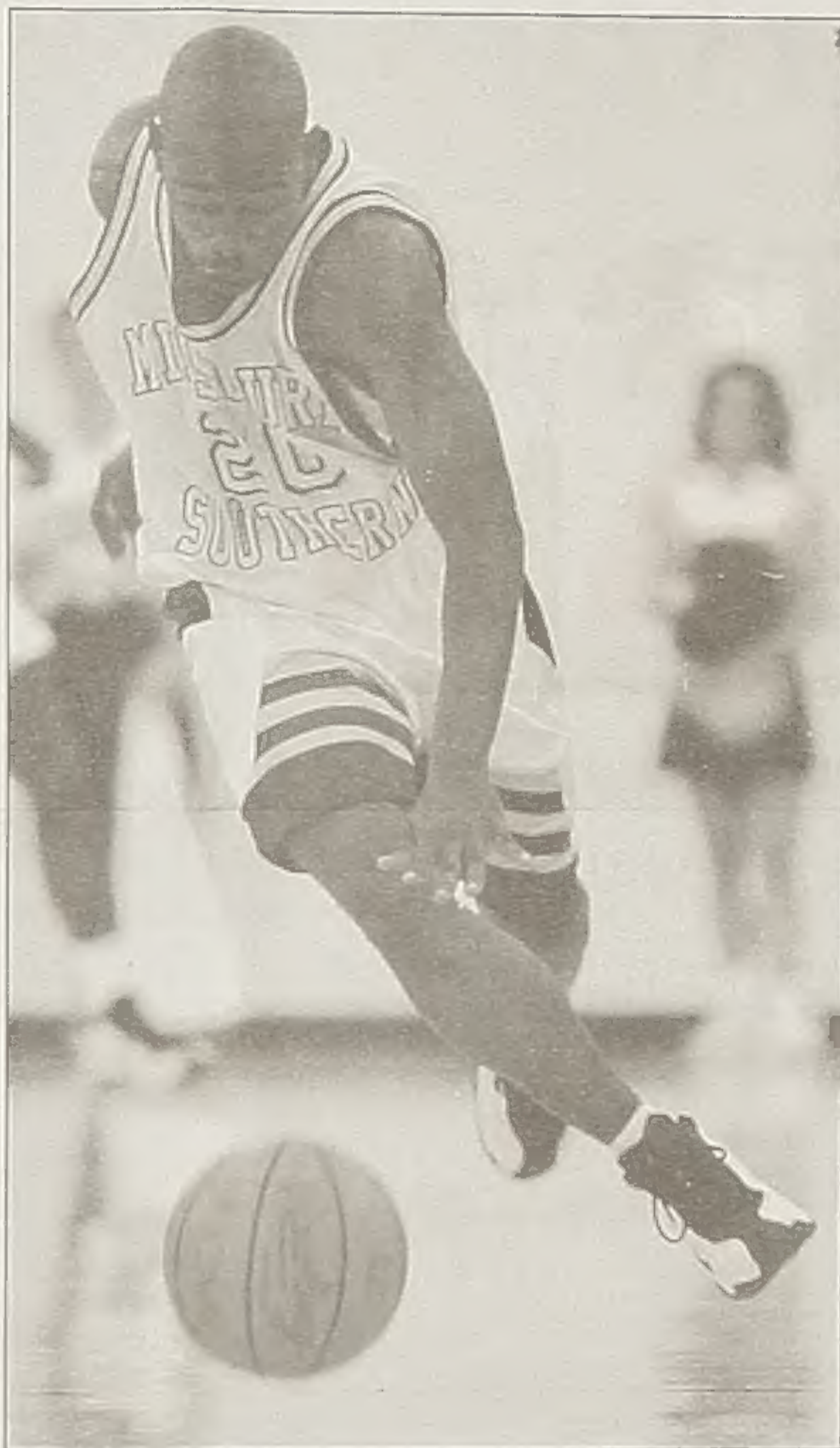
The Lions kicked off their grueling four-game road trip Jan. 20 in Rolla, falling to the University of Missouri-Rolla Miners 74-53. Brian Taylor led the Lions with 14 points and pulled down a team-high nine rebounds. Junior Carlos Newberry added 13 points off the bench.

Looking to kick-start a struggling offense that shot only 38 percent from the floor against UMR, Corn shook up the starting lineup against Emporia State University

Saturday in Emporia, Kan. Corn went with a smaller and quicker starting five, bringing the 6-foot-9 Olson off the bench.

Olson and Phillips, who also didn't start, led with 19 points each. The Lions dropped the Hornets (10-8, 2-5) 74-59 to end a three-game skid and pull into a fourth-place tie with Lincoln University in the MIAA standings.

Southern traveled to Warrensburg Monday looking to move over the .500 mark in conference play. In a rematch with Central Missouri State University, the Lions attempted to avenge a 72-68 loss at the



FILE PHOTO
Guaya Santiago makes a pass in a regular season game in 1998.

FILE PHOTO
Redshirt senior Larry Gause hustles down court on a fast break in a game earlier this season. He scored nine points in Wednesday's contest against the Gorillas.

hands of the Mules Jan. 9 in Joplin.

CMSU (11-9, 3-6) shot 59 percent from the floor, 61 percent in the second half, handing Southern a disappointing 95-84 loss.

Senior Allan Brown nailed five treys in scoring a career-high 18 points, all coming

after the break, to lead four players in double figures. Olson, Phillips, and Taylor contributed 14, 14, and 10 points, respectively.

Next game for Southern is 8 p.m. Saturday in Young Gymnasium against the Emporia State University Hornets. □

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Lady Gorillas handle Southern 71-58 in battle at Pittsburg

By ANDRE L. SMITH
SPORTS/DESIGN EDITOR

"We played with a lot of intensity in the second half but turnovers and rebounds killed us."

Amy Townsend
Women's head basketball coach

Pittsburg State's Lady Gorillas visited the free throw line 42 times and hit 29 as they handed the Missouri Southern Lady Lions a 71-58 loss Wednesday night. The game, according to Southern head coach Amy Townsend, was a physical and frustrating one. In addition to sending PSU to the line several times, they also turned the ball over 20 times.

"We had four or five trips down the floor after we had gotten a steal or forced a turnover and were down by eight or nine," Townsend said. "We couldn't get a shot off because we turned the ball over."

The Lady Gorillas crashed the boards as well. They out-rebounded Southern 40-30, 25 of which came on the offensive end.

"I thought they killed us on the offensive boards in the first half," Townsend added. "That really hurt us because they got lots of second-chance points."

Southern falls to 5-13 overall and 1-7 in the MIAA.

Four Lady Gorillas scored in double figures.

"We played a great first half," Townsend said. "We played with lots of intensity in the second half, but turnovers and rebounds killed us."

Mariel Lanza, a forward from Buenos Aires, Argentina, scored a career-high 12 points to lead the Lady Lions. Mandy Olson added nine. On Monday, the Lady Lions dropped a 70-59 decision to Central Missouri State in Warrensburg.

Olson led Southern with 20 points, and Lyndsey Kenealy had 13 points and 10 rebounds. Townsend said the Jennies did some different things defensively than in their loss at Southern earlier in the season.

"We played a little more zone because we felt like we didn't match up personnel wise," Townsend said. "They went six of nine from the three-point line in the first half. That was really the difference."

The Lady Lions will prepare to take on Emporia State University at home at 5:45 p.m. Saturday.

ESU whipped Southern 95-77 two weeks ago in Emporia. □

By the Numbers

MSSC	33	25	58
PSU	37	34	71

■ Mariel Lanza, 20 points
Mandy Olson, 9 points

NEXT UP:

Emporia at Southern, 5:45 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 30

COMMENTARY

Apologies—the perfect end to differences

One has to admire Missouri Southern distance runner Jake Wells, who saw the error of his way when he defied an officer's orders Saturday morning.

It takes a man to admit he was wrong, and yes, Wells, a member of the Southern track team, was wrong. However,

is puzzling that after years and years of Wells running all over town, a Joplin police officer suddenly had a problem with his behavior.



Andre L. Smith
Sports/Design Editor

Use your imagination. The officer was sitting in his vehicle, eating a danish and sipping hot coffee on a snowy morning when he saw a group of guys running — two on the sidewalk, one in the street. The men were dressed in tight, bright green pants and hats that read "Southern."

Possibly it crosses the officer's mind there is a city ordinance that reads, "If the sidewalk is usable, use it." (That isn't quoted word for word, by the way.)

Approximately five years ago, head track and field coach Tom Rutledge received a call from an unhappy citizen regarding the safety of pedestrians on the sidewalk.

Rutledge has always told his runners to avoid pedestrians and run toward traffic. No one has been arrested for this before, so why is a concern now?

Wells said he was doing what he believed to be right by following a common routine.

While running, he continued to maintain a distance of approximately one or two feet from the curb, after once being told by the officer to run on the sidewalk.

Upon the second warning, Wells said "a few choice words" to the officer and continued to run.

The policeman called for back-up before he apprehended Wells and cuffed him.

Brian Hill, who was running with Wells, wanted to see what was going on, so he jogged back toward Wells and was taken down by another officer. So here's the bottom line: Wells was clearly wrong for saying what he said and acting the way he did.

Rodney King was severely beaten for resisting arrest, and although this case is not nearly as extreme, the principle is the same.

Wells was the first to admit he was wrong, and for that he deserves respect.

The action of the officer calling for back-up is questionable. As Rutledge said, "It's good to have these men on duty to uphold the law."

But there is a difference in upholding the law and abusing the law.

Wells and Hill believe they were mistreated, and the officer thinks he has been disrespected, and I guess, threatened. It could have been ugly, but it was not.

The charges will most likely be dropped, and this entire thing will end the way it should have — with apologies around and the good old track guys "running the streets" once again. I mean, the sidewalks. □

MISSOURI SOUTHERN ATHLETICS

1998
Year
In Review

The Missouri Southern women's cross country team performed well enough to win the MIAA championship in Pittsburg, Kan. Some of the Lady Lions were battling sickness and others dealt with shin splints, which made the victory that much sweeter.

Two MIAA championships highlight bazaar athletic year

STORY BY ANDRE L. SMITH • PHOTOS BY NOPPADOL PAOTHONG

January. Perhaps the biggest and most exciting news in the first month of every year is the outcome of the Super Bowl. In 1998, former Missouri Southern standout Rod Smith started at wide receiver in the Denver Broncos' 31-24 victory over Green Bay.

Football Lions Justin Taylor and Caleb Lewis were making headlines of their own. After a stellar senior season, capped by a 94-yard kickoff return and 18-yard touchdown run in his final game, Taylor was named to the College Football Chronicle Unsung Hero All-American team. Lewis, after averaging 42 yards per punt as a junior, was on the list of Don Hansen's Football Gazette All-Americans.

On Jan. 21, Amy Townsend and the Lady Lions recorded their first conference win as they handled the University of Missouri-Rolla 82-77.

February. Six straight losses in February by Southern's men's basketball team left them out of the playoffs after a 13-7 start. Townsend finished her first stint as Lady Lion head basketball coach with a 4-22 record and two conference wins — a sweep of Missouri-Rolla. At the University of Kansas, Sonia Eudy broke the school's indoor track 5,000-meter record with a time of 17:50. The effort made her a provisional qualifier.

Warren Turner and the baseball Lions began their season by competing against tough NCAA Division I programs in order to prepare for Division II foes.

March. At the MIAA indoor track conference competition, Tyson Sims broke Southern's high jump record at 6-8 1/4. After being tripped, trampled, and taken away in an ambulance in a relay event, Eudy returned to the meet to win the conference championship in the 5,000-meter run.

Other provisional qualifiers were Amanda Harrison (fourth in the mile), Heather Hoyle (third

in the 55-meter run), DaLana Lofland (fourth in the 400-meter run), Tina Keller (second in the hurdles), and Stephanie Wainscott in the shot put. Lofland and Keller each qualified for the national meet in the 800-meter run and 55-meter run, respectively.

April. At the ground-breaking ceremony of Southern's new field house, the Board of Regents named it the Leggett & Platt Athletic Center after its \$1 million donation.

In their first-ever game, Southern's women's soccer team stunned Southwest Baptist University 3-2 by way of three unanswered goals in the second half. Jen Lawrence had two goals in the contest, and Pamela Darnell scored the winning goal with less than five minutes left in the game.

Britany Hargis turned in a brilliant performance at the MIAA softball championships. She posted a 4-0 record while striking out 11 batters and allowing only 15 hits. She pitched three shutouts and had no earned runs during the entire weekend. As a result of her pitching, the team's defense and big bats, and Pat Lipira's coaching, the team won the MIAA championship.

Senior Jennifer Jimerson was named conference player of the year, and Hargis was named freshman of the year. Both were named first-team all-conference players along with Kim Wilson. Lipira was named conference coach of the year.

Going into the conference tournament, two Southern tennis tandems were 8-4 and preparing to be highly seeded. Julie Posch and Heather Andrews were Southern's No. 1 pair, and Valerie Butler and Muffy Headley were the No. 2 pair.

May. Southern's softball team participated in the regional tournament, and the men's baseball team dropped the first two games of the MIAA tournament to end its season at 21-20.

Betsy Taylor, Terri Dresh, Lipira, Dr. Joel Tupper, and Skip Hale were selected to be recognized for their contribution to Southern athletics.

Eudy locked the conference outdoor track and field championship in the 3,000- and 5,000-meter run while Keller won the 100 hurdles and Harrison was second in the 1,500 and the 3,000 and third in the 800.

June/July/August. While continuing to



Mark Lloyd under center Ben Beeler (above).

Seth McKinzie

recruit and sign players. Greg Gregory and other Southern football coaches prepared for battle with MIAA opponents. Construction continued on the Leggett & Platt Athletic Center, which was then projected to be finished by commencement in May 1999.

September. Julio Leon announced the naming of Southern's soccer field after Dr. Hal Bodon. Bodon was responsible for starting soccer at Southern more than 25 years ago.

Linda Gebauer started her stint as Lady Lion head tennis coach at Missouri Western. Sept. 17 will forever be known as "the day the lights went out" at Southern's Fred G. Hughes Stadium. During the second quarter of the contest against Northwest Missouri State, the stadium went completely dark, which temporarily halted Metro Sports' television broadcast of the game. A second minor blackout occurred on one side of the stadium in the second half. The Bearcats cruised to victory.

Although they came out on top in most statistical categories, the Southern football team dropped a 20-6 decision to the Pittsburg State Gorillas. However, the Lions did not only lose the game. On the seventh play of the game, senior quarterback Brad Cornelsen suffered a broken foot, which would be a season-ending injury. The Lions were still seeking victory after losing to Northeastern State and Northwest in previous weeks.

After starting out 0-5 in the conference, a great defensive effort by Stephanie Bunker and a great offensive effort by Meredith Hyde and Brianna Abel helped the Lady Lion volleyball team end its conference losing streak by beating Pittsburg State.

October. Despite several injuries and sicknesses, the Southern women's cross country won the MIAA championship at Pittsburg, Kan. The Lady Lions finished five points ahead of Truman State. In Southern's Homecoming game, the Washburn Ichabods stunned the Lions 49-37, sticking them with their first losing season since 1992. Cornelsen



Brad Cornelsen

was cleared to practice after the Homecoming game, but he would not return to the lineup.

November. Both Southern basketball teams opened their seasons with victories against Ozark Christian College. The men won 101-39 by way of Matt Olson's 17 points and Larry Gause's 15. In her first game as a Lady Lion, Jayme Callahan tied Southern's single game steals record with eight. As a team, the Lady Lions broke Southern's single game team steals record with 28.

Southern's football team ended their season 3-7 with a 25-21 loss at Truman State, a place where they have never won. The Lady Lion volleyball team ended its season 7-20 overall, 5-11 MIAA. Meredith Hyde was an honorable mention all-conference selection.

December. The basketball Lady Lions lost four of four games, falling victim to Central Arkansas, Mississippi U. for Women, Arkansas Tech, and Rockhurst. The Lions went 2-3 in December, beating Central Arkansas 80-54 and the Dream Builders 94-81. They suffered losses to Rockhurst, Seattle Pacific, and Abilene Christian.

The first Southern athletics Web site was accessible through Southern's home page. □



Dr. Pat Lipira